

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LIV.]

HONGKONG, MONDAY, 16TH DECEMBER, 1901.

No. 25

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BIRTHS.

On the 28th November, at "Spottiswoode," Neil Road, Singapore, the wife of A. KETCHING, of a daughter.

On the 4th December, at No. 1,200, Sing-king-pang Road, Shanghai, the wife of P. F. CARNEIRO, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 26th November, at St. Andrew's Cathedral, Singapore, by the Rev. W. H. C. Dunkerley, M.A., assisted by the Rev. P. W. Haines, FERDINAND FORTESCUE FAITHFULL, youngest son of the late Rev. GEORGE FAITHFULL, of Storrington, Sussex, to VIOLET ELEANOR HAMILTON, youngest daughter of J. B. FERRELL, Esq.

On the 4th December, at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, JAMES LAW, to ELSIE MARY FERGUSON.

DEATHS.

On the 28th November, at No. 41, Waterloo Street, Singapore, Mrs. P. P. MCINTYRE, widow of the late ROBERT MACKENZIE MCINTYRE, aged 67 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The English mail of the 8th November arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Valetta*, on the 7th December (29 days); the German mail of the 11th November arrived, per N. D. L. steamer *Prinzess Irene*, on the 10th December (29 days); and the American mail of the 16th November arrived, per T. K. K. steamer *Hongkong Maru*, on the 14th December (28 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The Korean Government proposes to import a man-of-war from Germany.

Mr J. H. Gubbins, C.M.G., who has been acting as British *chargé d'affaires* at Seoul during the absence of Mr. Jordan, has returned to Tokyo.

Japanese papers report that the Government is selling its 50 million yen of Chinese Indemnity bonds to the Postal Savings Bank Bureau for 40 millions, of which two millions go to pay private claims.

Japan has petitioned the Russian Government for permission to establish a Consulate at Vladivostok, as the present office of Commercial Agent does not answer the demands of Japanese subjects there.

H.E. the Governor, Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., will go on leave in the first week of January, when H.E. Major-General Sir W. J. Gascoigne, C.M.G., will again be Acting Governor of the Colony.

It is stated in St. Petersburg that the Japanese Government has concluded negotiations with Russia, whereby the former will open up a regular steamship service between Tsuruga and Vladivostok.

The Lord Mayor received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies a cheque for £12,500, being a contribution by the Colony of Hongkong towards the Fund for the National Memorial to Queen Victoria.

A scheme is now under discussion at Batavia for communication with San Francisco, via China and Japan ports, in steamers flying the Dutch flag. The main difficulty in the way is the lack of capital for the enterprise.

L'Echo de Chine reports that order reigns at Peking, but numerous bands of brigands are over-running the province of Chihli. The Chinese authorities, however, are severely punishing all offences committed against foreigners.

A Chungking despatch to Shanghai reports that the Chinese authorities of that city on the 20th ult. marked out, in conjunction with the Japanese Consul, the boundaries of the proposed Japanese Settlement in that port, in the Wangchiatu district. Boundary-stones were also set up at the time.

Since the conclusion of the Chinese peace negotiations the Japanese troops in North China have been gradually withdrawn. Altogether 2,000 men are left in various places, of whom 500 each are stationed at Peking and Shanhaikwan, and 300 at Tientsin. The rest are distributed at various points, a small number being placed at Shanghai as "guard" to the Japanese Consulate.

The *New York Times*, with reference to the Treasury statement that the trade of the United States has suffered more than that of any European nation through the disturbances in China, says that this loss is the direct consequence of the Russian occupation of Manchuria. The States have no intention of fighting Russia, but would doubtless exercise a highly benevolent neutrality towards any Power doing so over the Manchurian or Korean situations. Newchwang, adds the *New York Times*, would be much safer in Japanese hands.

Yung Lu sent last week a secret despatch advising Director-General Sheng that the Imperial Court was to leave Kaifengfu on Saturday. Yung Lu said that he disregarded possible personal danger, because delay meant danger to the dynasty. It appears that on the Empress Dowager's birthday the Secret Society men fired the Palaces at Kaifengfu. Two buildings were gutted before the flames were extinguished.

Persistent rumours have been circulating in Shanghai mandarin circles that the Empress Dowager intends to send for Viceroy Chang Chih-tung to be one of the members of the Grand Council and a special adviser, upon her return to Peking. It is also alleged that Viceroy Chang is not as friendly to his Majesty Kwang Hsi as might be desired; hence those of the Emperor's party at Court apprehend that the presence of the Viceroy at the capital may have an adverse influence on the earnestly desired return to power of his Majesty in the near future.

Colonel Hamilton Bower has retired from the command of the Weihaiwei Regiment, having been appointed to the command of the British Legation Guard at Peking. The Weihaiwei Regiment now consists of twelve companies, but it is doubtful whether the War Office knows of the existence of more than two companies, which is all it proposes to use in the defence of Weihaiwei. The *N.-C. Daily News* reports that there is a possibility of the other ten companies coming to augment the British garrison at Shanghai. It is supposed that Major C. D. Bruce, who is now on leave, will be given the command of the regiment.

With regard to the alleged looting by Japanese officers in North China, the leading members of the Japanese House of Peers think it inadvisable of the House to express its opinion on the matter, the opinion being that if unhappily there were any actions committed deserving of punishment the members of the House in their private capacity should advise the Premier or the Supreme Military Council to take measures to punish the officers. It is stated that Marshal Count Nozu, the Inspector General of the Army Training Department, proposes to take strict measures to punish the offending officers. From the attitude of various parties on the question it is concluded that the matter will not be taken up by the Diet.

Although the relief was long ago foreshadowed in these columns, says the *Singapore Free Press*, it is now definitely stated by the War Office that the Welsh Fusiliers from Hongkong will come to Singapore. That will happen when a battalion is sent to Hongkong from South Africa—possibly, as mentioned before, one of the Devons battalions. But this is uncertain. The Welsh Fusiliers will relieve the 3rd Madras Light Infantry, and as the Fusiliers will go to Tanglin the 13th will go into *attap* huts, probably at Keppel Harbour, pending the erection of permanent barracks there. Considering everything, we do not fancy the move will take place before June, but it will certainly be quite imminent then if it have not actually come off. Singapore before the latter part of 1902 will therefore have its future normal garrison, one British battalion of Infantry, and one battalion of Indian troops.

PIRACY IN THE CANTON DELTA

(Daily Press, 11th December.)

It is with great regret, but without the least surprise, we learn that there is another recrudescence of piracy in the Canton Delta, and that life and property in that rich and spreading territory are again practically at the mercy of lawless ruffians. Within the past week or two there have been five serious cases of piracy, and it is an established fact that regular organised bands, ranging from half-a-score persons to half-a-hundred, are roving about the Canton and West Rivers and their numerous branches, cutting out steam-launches and native junks and passage-boats. This state of things has been going on for many years, but within the past three years the condition of the Delta has gone from very bad to much worse, despite complaints, remonstrances, and some well meant attempts by the foreign squadrons to assist in providing a check upon the ravages of these foes to good order. In July, 1899, representations were made by the silk-merchants of Canton on the subject, setting forth the grave interference with trade caused by the robberies and piracies which had terrorised the Delta and prevented the silk-growers from forwarding their products to Canton to enable dealers to fulfil their contracts with the foreign firms, and were sent on to the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce, who thereupon addressed strong representations on the subject to the British Minister at Peking, to His Excellency the Governor, and to the London Chamber of Commerce, urging that the Kwangtung waterways should be patrolled by British gunboats, and pressing for the early opening of these waterways to navigation by foreign steamers. The outcome of all this agitation was the despatch of several small gunboats up the rivers and a temporary—very temporary—reduction in the piracies committed. The West River, which had been opened to trade as far as Wuchow, has not yet been opened to Nanning-fu, and the other waterways are still closed to foreign steamers. No serious attempt has ever been made by the Provincial Government to grapple with the evil, either because they are powerless to do so, or because some of the mandarins are in the pay of the pirates, or because they are incapable of a persevering effort to put down any established abuse. In any case, be the causes what they may, the Government of the Two Kwang is hopelessly and incurably incompetent to suppress brigandage or to protect trade in the two provinces. It may be pleaded that they have no effective organisation, but such a plea cannot be entertained, because the mandarins can nearly always succeed in making themselves felt if it pays them to do so. Treaty obligations are nothing to these men; they neither feel bound to carry them into effect nor have they the wish to do so. The state of anarchy to which certain districts are reduced causes them no inconvenience and gives them no concern, except on those rare occasions when a foreign Consul makes a demand for justice, presents a big claim on behalf of a countryman, or, in sheer despair of obtaining an answer to his representations, threatens to resign as a protest against the inaction of the Government.

Matters have now got to such a pass that something should be done at once to provide a remedy for the evil. It is not to be found, apparently, in representations addressed to the Viceroy through the Consuls. These are met by denials of the piracies, by promises of intervention and the punishment of the offenders, which either extend

only to enquiry into a particular case and punishment of some coolies who may or may not be guilty of the crimes charged against them, or only consist of vague promises merely given to quiet the too insistent foreigner. The patrolling of the rivers by foreign gunboats has had some effect, but much less than was anticipated, owing partly to want of knowledge of the lairs of the pirates and partly to the latter hoodwinking the gunboats. Nevertheless, as we have said, the appearance of these little craft has had a good moral effect on the people of the Delta, which would be greatly enhanced if the commanders had powers to deal summarily with pirates or robbers. But they are powerless unless they catch a pirate boat in the act of attacking a foreign steamer, and they are, we presume, unable to intervene in the case of a native craft being attacked, even if they were so fortunate as to witness such a piracy. What is wanted is an organised system of River Police under the control of the Imperial Maritime Customs, who should be supplied with a flotilla of six or eight gunboats, under the command of and partly officered by Europeans. These should be given a free hand to extirpate pirates and restore and preserve order on the waterways. Something was done in this direction, we believe, early in the seventies, in the time of the Viceroy Jiu Lin, who put Europeans in command of some half-a-dozen of his gunboats with instructions to hunt down and root out pirates, with great effect, and for years thereafter the land had at least comparative peace. We commend the idea to the Foreign Ministers at Peking, with the sincere hope that it will be taken into serious consideration. The evil complained of is of such magnitude, its effects are so extensively felt, and its existence is such a scandal to civilisation, that unless some determined effort be made to grapple with it, its continuance will cast a reflection alike on the ability and the humanity of the Foreign Representatives in China. More particularly are the British, French, and German Ministers interested in the repression of piracy in the Canton Delta, a district wherein, under happier circumstances, there might reasonably be expected a large development of trade with the increased prosperity that would follow the maintenance of good order and restoration of security. The subject was, we believe, brought to the notice of Sir JAMES LYLE, MACKAY, the British Special Commissioner sent out to negotiate the commercial terms with regard to the Tariff, &c., during his visit to the Colony, and we trust therefore it will not be lost sight of. At the same time, it might be well if the local Chamber of Commerce would once again take up the question and bring it at this juncture to the notice of the British Minister.

From the *Cornish Times* of 2nd ult. we see that an old Hongkong resident in the person of Mr. George Harris has been returned to the Liskeard Town Council. After the declaration of the poll "Mr. Harris was immediately surrounded by his supporters, who hoisted him upon their shoulders, and, with great cheering, carried him up Pike Street, and escorted him through Barras Street into Dean Street, whither he was followed by a large crowd of interested spectators. Liskeard Borough Band played selections at various points, and handbell ringers were also out." Mr. Harris was foreman of the masons employed in the construction of Tytam Reservoir. Since returning home to his native town, Mr. Harris has built several pretty dwellings on a finely situated suburban plot of land that he purchased and named "Hongkong."

TARIFF REVISION.

(Daily Press, 13th November.)

One of the six Appendices just published by the China Association in pamphlet form for information of members, pending the appearance of the annual report in March next, is entitled "Tariff Revision" and contains communications passing between the Association and the Foreign Office, together with certain enclosures, etc. The first letter, dated the 12th June last, is from the Association to the Marquis of LANSDOWNE and deals with the project of restoring the Chinese Customs tariff to an effective five per cent. The letter says that the concurrence of the Government in the Association's view of the desirability of avoiding a large addition to the tariff in existing circumstances has been received with much satisfaction. The proposed restoration of an effective five per cent. tariff stands admittedly on a different basis. The Chinese are entitled to claim as a treaty right the readjustment of the obsolete schedule of values attached to the Treaty of Tientsin; but, continues the letter, the right "to convey imports from a port to an inland market" under transit-pass is also a treaty right. Moreover, the Chinese have failed to carry out other obligations; too, notably that of river conservancy. Eastern telegrams (namely, from the Shanghai and Hongkong Committees) suggested that a rectification of the tariff should be accompanied by a redress of such grievances. A memorandum from the Association, signed by Mr. GUNDRY, the Honorary Secretary, accompanies the letter, emphasising the necessity of both sides fulfilling the Treaty, China as well as the Powers, especially in the matter of Article 28 of the Treaty of Tientsin. Deprecating objections which might be made, Mr. GUNDRY suggests two reflections:—(1) That the Imperial Revenue would be measurably recouped by the expansion that might be anticipated if trade were relieved from embarrassing imports. (2) That an aggravation of inland taxation—as one method of meeting foreign exactions—may be anticipated unless countervailing precautions be taken. Further, a rectification of the export duties as well as those on imports is suggested. "On the recognised principle that a country pays for its imports with its exports," says the memorandum, "a rectification of the burdens on produce with a view to promoting export trade would seem as desirable as a re-adjustment of the import dues." Reciprocal corrections, in short, are what are called for. Finally, a letter from the Shanghai Committee is forwarded to Lord LANSDOWNE, regarding the rumoured project of an increase of tariff to ten per cent. and urging a renewed protest. Mr. DUNGEON concludes this letter with the words:—"It is considered a mild term to 'apply to a scheme which plainly has its origin in the desire of some of the Powers 'to get their money as speedily as possible, 'at the expense of a trade in which they 'have little interest.'"

The Association received a three-line reply from the Foreign Office, acknowledging the receipt of the letter and memorandum. This document is followed by letters from Bristol, Leeds, and Liverpool Chambers of Commerce, approving the Association's communications to the Government. Next comes a telegram to the Shanghai Committee to this effect:—"Intend urging Foreign Office delay introduction tariff revision as 'long as possible. We suggest basing 'rectification last five years' average.'" To this the Shanghai Committee agreed, urging

too that the new tariff specific duties should be fully considered in Shanghai and England before the tariff comes into force.

On the 22nd August, the Association wrote to the Foreign Office, expressing the apprehension of the merchantile community in China at the statement that the projected increase in the Customs tariff would be put in force two months after the signature of the final Protocol, and suggesting a satisfactory schedule of specific values could only be based on a sufficient average of years, such as the five years 1894-99-1900 being abnormal. In view of the amount of business done in China by forward contract, Mr. GUNDRY added that full notice of the precise figures of a new tariff was essential to the foreign merchant, and the Association therefore asked for delay. To this the Foreign Office replied on the 5th September that Sir ERNEST SATOW had been unable to induce his colleagues at Peking to postpone the date of the new tariff until January next. As for the specific duties (into which the *ad valorem* duties would be converted as soon as possible), the basis of calculation would be the average values of the years 1897-99. On the 3rd October the Association wrote again, reiterating the anxiety in commercial circles as to the effect of *ad valorem* duties pending the calculation of specific rates; but expressed gratification at the assurance that *ad valorem* duties would be converted as soon as possible, and accepted the period 1897-99 fixed by the Government as a basis of calculation. With regard to the arrangement that two months after the signature of the Protocol five per cent. *ad valorem* duties would be enforced, Mr. GUNDRY wrote, on the Association's behalf:—"It appears scarcely possible that the necessary calculations can be made by that date." Specific duties, it was pointed out, were a protection against dishonest declarations of value, a fact which made a speedy conversion essential. In reply to this came the final letter in the Appendix before us, written from the Foreign Office on the 8th October last, in which the Association was informed that Lord LANSDOWNE was fully alive to the commercial anxiety that there should be no unavoidable delay in the conversion of duties, and that every effort to expedite the work would be made.

The story is carried on, partly, in the report of our own Chamber of Commerce, published in yesterday's issue. In the memorandum accompanying that report, the Chamber gives priority to five among the questions more intimately concerning trade, of which the first is the conversion of the *ad valorem* into specific duties. The memorandum says:—"The greatest importance is attached to this conversion being carried through with the least possible delay. Referring to this point, we venture to express the strong hope that if the framing of the permanent specific tariff is likely to be a work of time, steps will be taken to bring into effect a temporary specific tariff." All commercial men interested in China will be glad to see the persistence which the China Association and various Chambers of Commerce are displaying in keeping the Government's attention directed to this and other most important questions.

The offices at No. 23, Water St., Yokohama, occupied by Messrs. Bisset & Ure, and Daniel and Coutts, brokers, were destroyed by fire at 4 a.m. on the 4th inst. The upstairs rooms were occupied by Mr. Williamson, Lloyd's Surveyor, who lost everything. The building belonged to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.

THE UNITED STATES AND MANCHURIA.

(Daily Press, 14th December.)

The remarks in the *New York Times* with regard to the attitude of the United States toward Russia in the matter of Manchuria, if they have a basis of fact, constitute a very important declaration. As for the claim that the United States have lost heavily so far through the Russian occupation of Manchuria, there can be no doubt of the truth of this, for the evidence is forthcoming from the consular reports. We have seen no complete list of the figures of American trade in China since the outbreak in the North, so that we cannot verify the statement that the loss to the United States in China is a direct consequence of Russia's occupation of Manchuria. It is indisputable, however, that in that province the States have suffered a heavy commercial blow. We have in the past spoken of the uncertainty as to American policy with regard to China, and put the Washington Government with that of Great Britain as doubtful elements in the situation which has risen over Manchuria. We cannot say whether, from the pronouncement of the *New York Times*, it may be concluded that the United States Government has awoken to the real import of a permanent Russian occupation of Manchuria. That such an occupation would mean the absolute boycotting of all but Russian trade, no commercial man in China can have a doubt; but Governments are slower to observe such obvious facts than the mercantile community. Our own Foreign Office, in spite of its protestations that it recognises the importance of the various questions brought before it by the China Association and the various Chambers of Commerce, hardly yet inspires confidence. It may be (and it is earnestly to be hoped that this is so) that the Government at Washington is more really aware of the critical state of affairs now existing for all engaged in Chinese trade. Hitherto all definite official declarations on the point have been carefully avoided, for we cannot consider phrases about "maintaining the open door" as of much weight. But if the *New York Times* has any authority for its forecast of the policy of the United States, then we have a very important new factor in the situation. The *New York* journal says that the States have no intention of fighting Russia, but would "doubtless exercise a highly benevolent neutrality towards any Power doing so over the Manchurian or Korean situations." Now, were such a statement to be made officially, it would be considered a very bold statement, even from the American Government, less trammelled by diplomatic conventions than those of the European Powers. Coming merely through newspapers channels, its gravity cannot exactly be estimated. It is perhaps needless to say that the commercial community will hope that there is something behind the report in the *New York Times*, for the knowledge that the United States are prepared to be firm would put strength into other governments. France and Germany, it may be held certain, are for different reasons in favour of Russia remaining in Manchuria; and these two countries alone, it may also be presumed, are in favour of it. Japan, the States, and Great Britain are the most concerned in the evacuation of the province. Japan has already shown how strongly she is opposed to China giving a free hand to Russia. As yet the other two of the three Powers have hung back. If the forecast which we have been discussing of the United States' attitude

be correct, it only remains for the British Government to give effect to the assurances which it has made in answer to commercial representations about Manchuria. Russia, having assured the world of her disinterestedness in the matter of Manchuria and her intention of restoring the province to China, would hardly in the face of the three Powers' wishes, be disposed to ignore her previous declarations. A peaceful solution of the Manchurian question would then be far more likely to result than through a continuance of the nerveless attitude adopted up to now in official circles in Washington and London.

THE ISTHMIAN CANAL AND THE U.S. SENATE.

(Daily Press, 10th December.)

It will be seen that, as was feared, the Jingoism in the United States Senate have attacked the new Isthmian Canal treaty, the draft of which was signed by Lord PAUNCEFOTE and Mr. HAY, on the ground that it does not authorise the fortification of the waterway by the States. The Foreign Committee of the Senate has already reported favourably on the treaty as signed, and President ROOSEVELT in his message to Congress urged its ratification. The full text of the treaty has been made public, but we have so far only REUTER'S summary in his telegram of the 6th instant. This confirms the previous sketch of the terms of the agreement, which provides for the construction of the Canal by, or under the auspices of, the United States, who are given all rights incident to such construction, and the exclusive right of management; and for the free and equal navigation of the Canal by the merchantmen and warships of all nations, as with the Suez Canal. The question of fortifications is not mentioned in the published treaty, and on this point the Jingoism, who are the anti-British party in the Senate, have fixed their attention. We quoted some days ago a letter from the Washington correspondent of the *Times*, in which a warning was given that outbursts of apparent hostility to Great Britain might be looked for during the debates in the Senate, to which too great weight must not be attached. Such behaviour is dictated more by traditional policy than by any very deep feeling. The Jingoism for their own ends are making an appeal to the worst elements in the United States electorate, elements fortunately as unlikely to gain control of affairs there as in other constitutionally governed countries. As an argument to the more ignorant the claim that the builders of the Canal must be allowed to occupy and fortify the route is specious and effective. But it is plain that level-headed politicians in the States do not court the burden of having to fortify and guard the Canal. The *Times* spoke recently of many Americans being "startled by the discovery that the right claimed would carry with it onerous responsibilities, including the maintenance of fortifications and a considerable military force in territory not at present in the possession of the United States." Subsequent advices from the States have confirmed this statement. The staunchest upholders of the "Monroe doctrine" (which we may perhaps be allowed to style the fashionable fetish of modern American politics) are not exerting themselves to secure the right of ratification of the Isthmian waterway. They rest content in the possession of all rights incident to the construction of the Canal and its exclusive management. We have still to learn the precise meaning of the stipulation that the United States are to be left sole

guarantors of the neutrality of the Canal. The point would not arise in time of peace, but in event of war between leading Powers difficulties would practically be bound to crop up, in anticipation of which it is almost certain that some definition has been inserted in the HAY-PAUNCEFOTE treaty of the nature of the United States' guarantee of the neutrality of the Canal. It is to be gathered that the action—or rather language—of the extremists in the Senate is not very seriously regarded in America, and such anticipation, it may be hoped, will be well founded. A great blow would be struck at international harmony and progress if certain hot-headed senators were to carry their colleagues with them and were to wreck the new treaty, approved alike by Congress and by presidential commendation, and acceptable to Great Britain, the country next to the United States most concerned in the Canal scheme. The rest of Europe has shown no disposition to protest against the suggested arrangement, but a demand by the United States that their soldiers should garrison the route, implying a complete control in time of war, might, not unreasonably, rouse more than one Continental nation. The news that the Senate as a body has imitated the wise attitude of the lower house will be universally welcomed.

THE WATER SUPPLY.

(Daily Press, 7th December.)

The correspondence laid on the table at the last meeting of the Legislative Council with regard to the water-supply of Hongkong calls attention once more to a subject which is (unfortunately) of perennial interest to residents here; or rather it helps to keep fixed the attention drawn to the subject by the recent cutting off of the supply and the complaints provoked thereby. It will have been seen that the Registrar-General, the Hon. A. W. BREWIN, as early as the 19th ult. took the step of writing to H.E. the Governor, and that his letter therefore preceded that addressed to us by Mr. C. S. SHARP, though not those of some of our anonymous correspondents. The grievances of the many sufferers have been fairly well ventilated and have not been denied. The case for the Director of Public Works and Water Authority is given in the two minutes by Mr. CHATHAM made public on Thursday. The burden of these is that the evils complained of must be endured. The unequal distribution of water during periods of intermittent supply is admitted. That the top floors should suffer by the water being drawn off by the people on the lower floors in the same houses, and the upper levels by the same action on the part of those living on the lower levels, it is "well nigh impossible to prevent," says Mr. CHATHAM. In his second minute he suggests that the landlords of tenement-houses should insist upon the ground-floor tenants contenting themselves with a reasonable allowance of water, so as to allow the upper-floor tenants a chance of obtaining some. This proposal would not be easy to put into effect, to say the most for it, and it only applies to tenement houses. Mr. BREWIN's suggestion for more street hydrants did not meet with Mr. CHATHAM's approval, as leading to greater consumption and waste of water and probably a more frequent or longer application of the intermittent system; nevertheless, Mr. CHATHAM yielded in one particularly bad case.

In his first minute Mr. CHATHAM says that, given the rainfall, our waterworks are about adequate for the wants of the City. This hardly agrees with what the Medical Officer of Health said in his report for

1899:—"It is clear that the water-supply generally is inadequate for the needs of the population." The Director of Public Works, moreover, goes on to point out that we have had an exceptionally low series of rainfalls for four years, so that, even if our supply were just adequate with a normal rainfall, it would be a poor consolation to us now or at any period within the past four years. The second minute to which Mr. CHATHAM appended his initials stated very lucidly the reasons why the establishment of an intermittent supply has acted so unfairly to some residents, who equally contribute to the taxes of the Colony with their more favoured neighbours. The sufferers will appreciate the explanation. It is true that the number of complaints about the supply have diminished, as Mr. CHATHAM claims, but we can assure him that grievances still exist, and that the endeavours to ensure a supply to all houses have not met with complete success, as indeed he is ready to admit. Finally Mr. CHATHAM deprecates charges of indifference or discourtesy owing to his inability to reply to complainants. In view of this, we think it would be satisfactory if, in his capacity of Director of Public Works, he could inform the public as to the actual progress of work on the reservoirs which are to increase the Colony's water-supply in the future. It would enable victims of the caprices of the intermittent supply system to bear their troubles better if they had some assurance of remedial measures being well in hand.

KIAOCHAU AND WEIHAIWEI.

(Daily Press, 9th December.)

Mr. H. J. WHIGHAM, whose work as correspondent for the *Morning Post* is well known, has written in very eulogistic terms of the German colony at Kiaochau, or Tsintau. We have already noted the rapid progress made there, judging from the statements of German officials and British observers alike. Mr. WHIGHAM's report goes perhaps further in its expectations of the future of the port. He claims that it is a moral certainty that Tsintau will, to a large extent, absorb the export and import trade of Shantung, both capturing the old trade and creating by the railway new centres of activity. The railway will also tap the coal-mines near Weihai, which are said to be of considerable value, even if the coal is not, according to the usual formula, "equal to the best Cardiff." Finally, he says, it must be remembered that Tsintau as a deep-water harbour will be a useful commercial base and distributing centre for all German trade in the north of China, Manchuria, and Corea. That Tsintau can ever rival Shanghai or even Dairen (since Dairen is at the end of an infinitely greater railway system), Mr. WHIGHAM does not maintain, but he holds that the German possession is yet destined to extract what commercial profit there is out of the province of Shantung; and, considering the thrifty nature of the people and the mineral prospects of the country, that profit is not unlikely to be considerable. The capital spent on Tsintau can never be exactly repaid in hard cash; primarily Tsintau is a naval base, and the money, or a large part of it, had to be spent regardless of direct commercial considerations. Having said so much, it was not to be expected that Mr. WHIGHAM could refrain from comparing the treatment of Weihaiwei, "the neglected spot on the Shantung coast which British officials, both civil and military, dismiss at present with something like contempt."

Weihaiwei, the *Morning Post's* correspondent claims, in spite of this contempt, is likely to play a prominent part in Chinese history during the next ten years. We should be glad to think that this is so. At the present moment it is as difficult to see what are the intentions of the British Government toward Weihaiwei as when we first took over the place from its Japanese occupants. Changes in its administration there certainly have been, but very little is to be gathered from these. Having originally handicapped most unnecessarily the new possession by a very one-sided understanding with Germany, the home authorities obstinately refuse to give any indication of what they intend doing with it now. So far it appears to serve chiefly as a home for grievances and a striking contrast to its near neighbour Kiaochau, or Tsintau. Yet a great number of unprejudiced observers have all along upheld the natural advantages of Weihaiwei, who as in the case of the German port the chief admiration is expressed for the way in which obstacles are being overcome and a fine colony being evolved in a none too favourable situation.

THE SERUM TREATMENT OF PLAGUE.

(Daily Press, 12th December.)

The Bombay Corporation has just been considering a report by Dr. CHOKSY on the serum treatment of bubonic plague, which is far more favourable to this method of combating the disease than are the reports of other recent observers. Dr. CHOKSY has had experience of five plague epidemics and has been studying the last Indian outbreak at the Arthur Road Hospital, Bombay. His opinions therefore are entitled to careful attention, even though they may be contested by the opponents of serum treatment. We are told by Indian authorities (self-constituted as such, it may be added) that plague in Hongkong is as nothing compared with what it is in India. Nevertheless, in view of the terrible mortality-rate among the sufferers and the comparatively large number of European victims, it is certain that we cannot afford to neglect any remedies which India finds of service; for, with all deference to the great Dependency, we must hold Hongkong to be as integral a part of the British Empire and its public health as important as India's. We are aware that it was possible during the past epidemic for those who wished to be inoculated against plague. But would it not also be possible, in the unfortunate event of another epidemic, to treat the sufferers as many of the Indian patients have been treated, with apparent success? The Bombay mortality is declared to have diminished after serum treatment. Into the technical and medical side of the question we shall not venture to enter, but in view of the constant attempts being made in other parts of the world to improve the treatment it seems not too much to expect that Hongkong, a notable victim of the scourge, should help in the investigation.

The sale of the Yahloong Cotton-spinning concern took place on the 4th inst. at 6, Foochow Road, Shanghai. The bidding started with one lakh taels, the second was 110,000 taels, third 120,000 taels, fourth 150,000 taels, fifth 200,000 taels, sixth 250,000 taels, seventh 300,000 taels, eighth 350,000 taels, ninth 380,000 taels, closely followed by 360,000 taels. After a short lull, the eleventh bid was 375,000 taels, followed by the twelfth and last bid of 380,000 taels, at which figure it was knocked down to Mr. J. R. Twentyman.

THE CRISIS: TELEGRAMS.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.]

SHANGHAI, 12th December, 7.17 p.m.

It is probable that the Imperial Court will really leave Kaifengfu on the 14th inst.

Sheng ta-jen and Sir Robert Hart have been appointed junior guardians of the heir apparent, as a reward for their exertions in arranging for peace.

SHANGHAI, 13th December, 7.15 p.m.

Yung Lu has sent a secret despatch advising Director-General Sheng that the Imperial Court shall (*sic*) leave Kaifengfu to-morrow. Yung Lu says that he disregards possible personal danger, because delay means danger to the dynasty.

It appears that on the Empress Dowager's birthday the Secret Society men fired the Palace at Kaifengfu. Two buildings were gutted before the flames were extinguished.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on the 12th inst. in the Board Room. Present:—Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer (President); Hon. A. W. Brewin, Registrar-General (Vice-President); Hon. W. Chatham, Director of Public Works; Dr. F. W. Clark, Medical Officer of Health; Mr. E. Osborne, Mr. Fung Wa Chün, and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (Secretary).

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE.

Dr. CLARK reported that he had examined the whole of the animals in the Wong Nei chong Dairy Farm on the 30th ult. and that they were now free from foot-and-mouth disease. Twelve cows and one calf contracted the disease; the calf died.

On the motion of the PRESIDENT, seconded by Mr. CHATHAM, the premises were declared free from infection.

RATS AND PLAGUE.

Mr. OSBORNE—The resolution standing in my name embodies a recommendation made to Government in August last by a committee of the Board consisting of Dr. Clark, Mr. May and myself, but concerning which nothing has yet been done. It is no mere theory, but an established fact, that some mysterious connection exists between rats and an outbreak of plague amongst human beings, and whatever this connection be, whether it lies in the inoculation of the human being by vermin from the rat or whether the explanation is to be found in any other direction, the undoubted fact remains that the presence in a dwelling of rats dead from plague is an almost certain precursor of an outbreak amongst its occupants; and, this being so, the obvious remedy would appear to be their extermination or at least their exclusion from human habitations. The destruction of rats is being prosecuted at the rate of some 1,000 per week, which is satisfactory so far as it goes; but the committee, in making this recommendation, were of opinion that the work should in the meantime be supplemented by measures which would prevent their egress from drains. It is, I believe, generally admitted that the disease makes its first appearance amongst the drain and storm-water rats, and it is a fact, verified by eye-witnesses, that plague-stricken rats leave the drains and enter domestic dwellings. From personal observation I can state that in certain coolie-houses plague did not exist until the appearance of rats, and that the first victims, where several men slept in one room, consisted of those whose beds were nearest the dead body of the rat. The committee therefore thought that if rats could be prevented from entering dwellings from drains it would be a great point gained in our battle against plague, and might also assist in exterminating them altogether, as it is reasonable to assume they would inoculate one another. Objection no doubt will be made to the fixing of network over street gullies, and we shall be told it will interfere with the free entrance of storm water; but difficulties such as this are not insurmountable, and in view of the universal and overwhelming evidence against the rat as a medium of infection,

no difficulties whatever should be permitted to block any reasonable measures which may be suggested for its extermination. I therefore beg to move "That the Government be asked to fix iron netting or other suitable contrivance over all the sewer and storm water gratings in Victoria, Tai Kok-tsui, Yaumati, and Hung Hom before the end of next February, with a view to prevent the egress of rats from the drains." I think it should be done before the end of February, because we may assume that by the end of March or early in April we shall have a recrudescence of plague.

After a pause, Dr. CLARK said—With a view to facilitating discussion on this subject, I beg to second the resolution now before the Board. I should have liked to hear the views of the Director of Public Works, but it is necessary that the resolution should be seconded. I do not know what technical difficulties may be in the way, but I certainly think something should be done on the lines indicated.

Mr. CHATHAM—I think, sir, we are all agreed that it is a very desirable precaution to take—to adopt means to confine rats to the sewers and drains and prevent them obtaining access to dwellings, but, as Mr. Osborne rightly anticipated, there are grave objections to attempting it by this means. Undoubtedly this netting must be of a very small mesh if you are going to prevent rats making their way through the openings, and consequently there would be great liability of these gratings becoming choked in the event of a rain-storm and serious damage being done by flooding to neighbouring property. This netting, too, could be easily removed, and the probability is that in many instances it would be stolen, and if not stolen, in any case it would be very speedily broken or damaged, so that you would be little better off in the end. In this connection, however, I may say that in one of the districts of the City I propose to introduce a new form of inlet to the storm-water drains and sewers, with the object of preventing rats from making their way through them. My intention is to have a few of them done, and then to let the sanitary experts who are coming to the Colony see them, and ascertain whether they have any other suggestion to make. But to go in for a wholesale alteration of inlets throughout the City and over in Kowloon is quite an extensive work and an expensive work; and I don't think it wise, in anticipation of the nearness of the visit of the experts to the Colony, to take such extensive measures. I am therefore opposed to the adoption of this proposal.

Mr. OSBORNE—If I may be allowed to add, sir, in connection with the interference to the water flowing into the drains, we may remember that plague invariably breaks out in the close, muggy weather which generally comes at the end of March or the beginning of April, and that the disease is generally in full swing long before the heavy rains occur. Therefore, if there is anything in this rat theory, if we can prevent the rats from entering the dwellings from the drains, that will be accomplished before the rainy season sets in, and the netting can then be removed. As regards waiting for the experts, I quite anticipated that this objection would be raised, but I am sorry it was raised by a member of the Sanitary Board, because waiting for the experts means waiting for their report.

Mr. CHATHAM—No.

Mr. OSBORNE—Until we have discussed all their recommendations and that means that this will be at the expense of enormous loss of life in this Colony; and I think that we, as the Sanitary Board, ought to work independently of the experts and not postpone or put off anything we can do to-day.

The PRESIDENT—I am strongly in favour of some action of the sort recommended by Mr. Osborne, and I think it should be taken. It would not be an expensive experiment and it is worthy of trial. The netting could be made of a small enough mesh to prevent rats leaving the drains and yet large enough not to be blocked by a small amount of debris. It is an undoubted fact that there is some connection between rats and plague, but what that connection is has not yet been quite proved. Still, we ought to prevent, as far as possible, the rats getting out of the sewers into the houses, and this seems a simple

matter. You don't propose to move an amendment, Mr. Chatham?

Mr. CHATHAM—No.

The resolution was then put to the meeting and carried by a majority, Mr. Chatham and Mr. Brewin being the only dissentients.

A QUESTION OF CONSTRUCTION.

Correspondence was laid on the table relative to increasing the height of the floors of No. 21, East Street.

Dr. CLARK said that another complaint existed in the absence of a backyard to the property.

Mr. BREWIN—This building is kept by a tobacco merchant. It isn't a tenement house—it is only occupied at night by the workmen and the shopkeeper and by the master. It is what is called a "hong," and I think that in the case of hongs and business premises, and in the case of buildings that have been erected previous to the passing of the Public Health Ordinance, we should deal gently with the owners and be as careful as possible to see that these violations of the sanitary laws are not merely technical infringements but are actually injurious to the public health.

After further remarks Mr. BREWIN moved "That the owner of this house be informed that the measurements of the top floor must be reduced to one-half the floor area, and that otherwise the floors be permitted to remain as they are, so long as the house is occupied as a hong."

Mr. FUNG WA CHÜN seconded.

The PRESIDENT—I think this matter had better be referred to the next meeting of the Board, as the question of the provision of back yards has arisen, and the two had better be considered together.

This amendment was seconded by Mr. OSBORNE and carried unanimously.

WATER ANALYSIS.

The SECRETARY submitted the report of Mr. Frank Browne, Government Analyst, upon the water supply. This bore that the Kowloon, Tytam, and Pokfulam services were all supplying water of excellent quality.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

The mortality statistics showed that the death-rate within the Colony for the week ended 3rd November was 17.0 per 1,000 of the population per annum, as compared with 17.2 in the preceding week of the previous year.

THE WORK OF THE CLEANSING GANGS.

At the request of the PRESIDENT, the SECRETARY read the following return by Dr. Clark of the work done by the cleansing gangs during the past fortnight:—Altogether 691 houses have been dealt with. The number of floors fumigated has been 1506, and the number of floors cleaned 1545. On one day very little work could be done on account of the rain, and taking therefore 11 working days, this represents 20 floors per gang per day. The work will, however, be done more rapidly in future, for it must be remembered that this is the first fortnight's work, and both the workers and the native inhabitants had to learn exactly what was wanted.

Mr. FUNG WA CHÜN—Are the Chinese allowed to cleanse their houses themselves after fumigation?

Dr. CLARK—Yes, under supervision.

This was all the public business.

The Japanese commercial commissioner at Vladivostok mentions in his report to the Government that on the completion of the Siberian and the Chinese Eastern Railway a great expansion of shipping traffic in the Far East will be witnessed. It would seem that general attention is now directed to this subject, for since the beginning of this year a large number of foreign visitors have arrived at Vladivostok overland and by sea. The Russian authorities are very anxious that the shipping traffic in the neighbouring sea shall not fall into the hands of foreigners, and are earnestly endeavouring to promote the mercantile marine of their own country. As a step in this direction it is proposed to place the two new steamers of the Chinese Eastern Railway Company—*Monchuria* and *Nonni*—on the line between Vladivostok and America. A Russian newspaper comments in its leading article that the inauguration of a direct route to America is urgent.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At the monthly meeting of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, held in the Chamber Room, City Hall, at 3 p.m., on Thursday, 5th December, 1901, present: Sir Thomas Jackson (Chairman), Mr. C. S. Sharp (Vice-Chairman), Messrs. A. Haupt, W. Poate, R. L. Richardson, N. A. Siebs, H. E. Tomkins, and R. C. Wilcox (Secretary):—

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last monthly meeting (held 7th November) were read and confirmed.

APOLOGY FOR NON-ATTENDANCE.

The SECRETARY produced a letter from Hon. T. H. Whitehead regretting his inability to attend owing to a meeting of the Legislative Council having been summoned for the same day and hour.

RESIGNATION FROM THE COMMITTEE.

Read letter from Mr. H. A. Ritchie, dated the 8th November, tendering his resignation from the Committee, in consequence of his impending departure from the Colony for a permanence.

Resignation accepted.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the election of Mr. E. A. Hewett, the new Superintendent of the P. & O. S. S. N. Co., to fill the vacancy. He thought Mr. Hewett's experience at Shanghai should make him a useful addition to the Committee.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN seconded.

Carried unanimously.

RESIGNATION OF MEMBER.

In consequence of his taking up the hong membership of Messrs. Turner & Co., Mr. R. C. Wilcox tendered resignation of his personal membership of the Chamber from the 31st December inst.

THE CHINESE TARIFF.

The SECRETARY reported that, in accordance with the decision come to at the last meeting, a letter was addressed, on the 5th November, to the Shanghai Branch of the China Association, acknowledging receipt of their letter and enclosures, with the thanks of the Committee therefor, and expressing cordial approval thereof. A copy of the memorandum prepared by this Chamber for the Special Commissioner was also enclosed.

Read further letters from the Association dated 8th November, since received, enclosing remainder of the new Classification of the Tariff, the latter stating that a telegram was, on the 16th idem, despatched to Peking by the Commissioner of Customs at Shanghai strongly urging that this Tariff (prepared by the Shanghai firms) be adopted at once, in order to put an end to the present state of chaos existing with regard to the collection of the new duties.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said he understood that the Tariff as prepared by the Shanghai experts had been approved at Peking, and had been, or was to be, adopted.

Mr. POATE believed it had been adopted at the coast ports.

Some conversation ensued, but it was not known whether any information on the subject had been received in Canton.

Mr. TOMKINS said up to last week duty was accepted on the values set forth in the Statistical Secretary's list of 1897, as per Customs Notification dated Canton, 14th November.

The CHAIRMAN said it was a feather in the cap of the Shanghai experts if their classification had been so promptly accepted. This Chamber would have to congratulate the Association on their well deserved success in the matter.

Decided to write in reply to the Association's letters in that sense.

Read letter from the Canton Chamber of Commerce, acknowledging receipt of a copy of this Chamber's Memorandum on the Tariff and Trade Questions, in which it fully concurred, but while thanking the Chamber for the invitation to send a representative to be present at the forthcoming interview with Sir James Lyle Mackay, was content to endorse the Hongkong Memorandum, which appeared to it to embrace all that could well be said on the questions raised.

The SECRETARY stated that on the 21st November, after the meeting of the Committee with Sir James Mackay at the Chairman's residence at Tiffin, he had a further lengthy

interview with the Commissioner at Government House, when they went through the Memorandum point by point, and he gave Sir James all the information he could on the various questions. He also subsequently supplied the Commissioner with copies of the Chamber's annual reports with correspondence on various subject and papers of interest marked for his use.

On the suggestion of the VICE-CHAIRMAN, it was decided to publish the Memorandum on the Tariff.

PREFERENTIAL DUTIES.

Read letter received the previous day from Mr. Thos. Arnold, Secretary of the Hongkong, Canton, & Macao Steamboat Co., Ltd., stating that he had received a letter from the Co.'s agent at Macao in reference to the steamer *Lungshan* trading between that port and Canton, from which he gave the following extract as bearing on the above important question:—

"The comprador of the steamer *Lungshan* told me the other day that several of the regular shippers by that steamer informed him that they were going to stop shipping per *Lungshan* in view of the 5 per cent *ad valorem* duty now being collected by the Chinese Maritime Customs at Canton. They also told him that by shipping their goods in junks the Native Customs about Canton would levy a lighter duty. This constitutes a sort of preferential duty in favour of junks to the detriment of foreign steamers."

Mr. Arnold added that so far there was no indication of the Native Customs at Canton coming under the control of the Maritime Customs.

The CHAIRMAN said this was an important communication, and must be dealt with promptly. He thought that the Chamber should send copies of it both to the British Minister and Sir James Mackay.

Mr. POATE said he could corroborate what was stated by the Steamboat Co.'s agent at Macao. Not only at Canton, but all along the West River the same thing was threatened and would undoubtedly be carried into effect. He suggested that a copy of Mr. Arnold's letter be sent to Sir Ernest Satow, and also a telegram on the subject.

The CHAIRMAN said Sir Ernest Satow was still on his travels, and would have to visit several ports yet before he returned to Peking. But they might write at once and telegraph when they heard of his arrival at Peking.

A desultory conversation on the question of the Hopo retaining his post and continuing his competition with the Maritime Customs ensued.

Eventually it was decided to write strongly to the British Minister on the question, and also to address Sir James Mackay and give him full particulars on the subject.

THE MERCHANT SHIPPING AMENDMENT ORDINANCE.

A letter from the Supt of the P. & O. S. S. N. Co. on behalf of the shipping agencies and firms having been received on the 18th November, enclosing petition addressed to the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the subject of the recent rejection by the Legislative Council of the Chamber's amendment to paragraph 16 of the Quarantine Regulations in the above Bill, and asking that it should be forwarded to the Government for transmission to Downing Street, this was done on the 19th idem with a covering letter endorsing the terms of the petition and expressing the hope that H. E. the Governor would see his way to recommend adoption of alteration desired.

The SECRETARY stated that, so far, no reply had been received to this communication.

THE FORTHCOMING EXHIBITION AT CORK.

A letter in reply to the Government's letter referring to the proposal that the Colonies should participate in the proposed Exhibition at Cork in May, 1902, was sent in on the 8th November in the terms decided upon at the last meeting.

Read further letter from the Colonial Secretary, dated 30th November, in which he requested the Chamber to inform the Governor more definitely how it proposes the Colony should participate in this Exhibition, which enterprise is described as being undertaken for the purpose of stimulating the growth and improvement of manufacturing and other industries in Ireland.

It was resolved to write in reply that the Committee, in making their first recommendation, imagined that the Cork Exhibition was to be on the lines of the Colonial and Indian Exhibition. Under the circumstances, however, while according the enterprise their fullest sympathy and heartily wishing it success, they did not see how the Colony could actively participate in it.

THE PRIVATE CHAIR AND RICKSHA COMMISSION.

The Report of the Commission appointed to enquire and report on the question of the existing difficulty of procuring and retaining reliable chair and jinricksha coolies for private chairs and jinrickshas was laid on the table.

This was all the business before the meeting.

MEMORANDUM ON THE TARIFF AND TRADE QUESTIONS.

The following memorandum has also been sent to us for publication:—

In connection with the commercial negotiations about to be opened between His Majesty's Government and China under the Protocol recently signed it is hoped that the numerous trade rights and facilities (many of which were really conceded by former Treaties but in different ways either nullified or evaded) so long agitated for by foreign merchants in China will at length be placed on sure grounds and beyond further question. Situated as this Colony is, being a free port, and therefore not dealing direct with the Chinese Customs, a large number of important questions affecting foreign trade with China do not immediately come under the cognisance of merchants here, although indirectly such questions are eventually closely bound up with their business. Of these the following may be named:—

Imports.—Bonded Warehouses (extension of system). Introduction of Regulations to permit of Re-packing of Foreign Imports. Importation of Foreign Salt. Registration of Trade Marks.

Exports.—Reduction in duties on certain articles, where the present Tariff forms an unduly high percentage on the value of the Goods. Coast Trade duties. The application of the Cankiang Rules. The abolition of restrictions on transport of Rice and Grain.

General.—Taxation on goods manufactured by foreigners in China. Encouragement of Industrial Enterprises. Internal Residence for Trading purposes. A National Currency. Higher Chinese Court for settlement of Commercial cases, where foreigners may sue Chinese. The erection of a Chinese Court for hearing Admiralty cases, where foreigners may sue Chinese. The question of liability of native shareholders in foreign joint stock companies. Improvement of River approaches to and the Harbours of Treaty Ports and the creation of Conservancy and Harbour Boards. Additional Lighting along the Coast and the navigable River channels, and buoying of the latter. Improvement in the working of the Chinese Inland Telegraph System. Improvement in Chinese Inland Postal Facilities.

These questions will, we feel assured, be fully dealt with by the various commercial bodies at the Chinese Treaty Ports, who by reason of their daily experience are better able to point out the various requirements.

This Chamber has been in communication with the Shanghai Chamber on the subject of the Tariff, and is in complete accord with it on general principles.

With regard to the questions more intimately concerning trade here, we give priority to the following:—

The Conversion of the Ad Valorem into Specific Duties. The greatest importance is attached to this conversion being carried through with the least possible delay. Referring to this point, we venture to express the strong hope that if the framing of the permanent specific tariff is likely to be a work of time, steps will be taken to bring into effect a temporary specific tariff.

The Transit Pass System. Further facilities for forwarding Foreign Imports into the interior under this system are greatly needed in the Southern provinces of China, where the system has, owing to the obstruction of officials and the levy of various duties, practically been a dead letter ever since the Treaty of Tientsin was signed.

The Abolition of *Lekin* on Foreign Imports.—This subject, which includes the abolition of various inland squeezes, such as *Lo-ti shiu Tao-li*, and other exactions, is so well known that further comment here is hardly necessary, the evil effects of these multiplied imposts being matter of notoriety.

Duties on Goods Imported Overland.—As the duties on seaborne imports will be raised under the Protocol, it is only reasonable to suggest that the duties on goods imported across the frontiers should be raised proportionately.

The Effective Opening of Inland Waters to Foreign Steam Navigation.—The interpretation placed by the head of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs upon the Regulations governing steam navigation on Inland Waters has rendered this much desired concession practically valueless. Earnest representations have from time to time been made on this subject. The Regulations more particularly affecting Hongkong are those which have hampered the development of trade on the West River. As the full particulars have already been placed in possession of the British Minister at Peking, it is not necessary to go into great detail here.

What in our opinion is required to make this concession of real practical value may be shortly stated as follows:—

Inter-treaty port steamers should be also registered for inland navigation, that is to say, the Inland Waters Navigation Regulations should be modified so as to adapt them to the whole trade. The West River Regulations, while remaining in force (possibly with modifications) for vessels running to and from Hongkong or Macao from or to River ports should be abolished for steamers confined to Chinese Inland Waters.

Kongmoon should be declared a treaty Port, whence (and also from Samshui and Wuchow) after payment of duties, goods would be free to find their way inland, either by the importing or other steamers, as might be found convenient.

The opening of the West River as far as Nanningfu, or the head of steam navigation.

The opening of the East River, as far as it may be navigable for steamers, and the opening of Waichow-fu as a Treaty port.

Intimately connected with the foregoing are the following questions:—

Duties.—Equality of taxation of any kind for all goods whether carried by foreign or native craft, steam or sail.

The question of Preferential Duties on junk-borne cargo from Canton to Hongkong; and *vice versa* as against shipments by steamer has been repeatedly raised by this Chamber. This has been the outcome of the dual system of Customs, and has resulted in the almost total extinction of the cargo-carrying between Canton and Hongkong by steamer.

In addition to the above grievances the steamer trade on the West River is subjected to another form of differential taxation. The *lekin* collected on cargo carried from Canton in Chinese lighters towed by launches is not only less than one and a half duty levied by the Customs if carried by steamers, but *lekin* taxes are also levied on steamer-borne cargo before shipment and after discharging in addition to the Customs one and a half duty. The result is that the cargo-carrying trade between Canton and Wuchow is practically monopolised by these Chinese lighters towed by steam launches.

Coast Duties to be abolished as far as River Ports are concerned, and one full duty to free goods to Hongkong from any point up river.

Re-export and Re-packing.—Permission to bring down goods from the West River or other Inland Waters to Canton and to re-export the same with the facility of re-packing under one full duty.

Suppression of Piracy in Delta.—During the past few years the trade along the delta of the Canton rivers has been seriously interfered with by the operations of numerous piratical bands. The blighting effects of these piracies on trade are too well known to need any lengthy reference to them.

Efforts have been made by British gunboats to suppress this pest and with for a time some good effect; more recently the British vessels have received some assistance in this police work from other foreign squadrons; but, notwithstanding these efforts, piracy has proved hydra-headed, is again extremely prevalent,

and trade is much disturbed. It is manifestly the duty of the Chinese authorities to preserve order in their own territory and keep the waterways safe for traffic, but up to the present, spite of the representations made by foreign officials, they have entirely failed to carry the urgently needed repressive measures into effect.

Improvements in the Channels of the Kwang Rivers.—There are many dangers and obstructions in these waterways, which should be removed. Without enumerating in detail those on the West River (which have already been indicated) we might call special attention to the existence of a number on the river between Hongkong and Canton, some natural and others artificially created. The removal of these would be a great boon to steam navigation in particular. The following is a list of these obstructions:—

In Blenheim Passage—Honam Sandspit.—This should be dredged. **Tai Sandspit.**—This should be dredged. **Tai Shek Barrier.**—The stones should be removed. **Comus Rock.**—This should be lighted. **Bridge Barrier.**—Stones should be removed. **Iron Barrier.**—Stones should be removed.

In Cambridge Passage—Salt Flats.—These are composed of sand, which should be dredged. **Whampoa Barrier.**—Stones should be removed. **Sulphur Point.**—Dredging required. **First Barrier.**—Stones should be removed. **Grassy Tongue.**—Should be lighted.

The Shek and Whampoa Barriers are original barriers put down some sixty years ago. The Bridge Barrier is of old standing, and both the stone and bridge should be removed; the bridge itself is rotten. The other barriers were put down during the Franco-Chinese war. All these barriers are artificial, and serve no purpose but to obstruct navigation.

THE DISINHERITING OF PU CHUN.

The following Imperial Decree was issued from Kaifengfu on the 30th ult., the translation being from the *N.-C. Daily News*:—

We have been instructed by the Majesty the Empress Dowager, Tze-hsi-tuan-yu, etc., etc., to issue the following decree:—Pu Chün, the son of the cashiered Prince Tuan, Tsai Yi, 2nd Order, it is well known to the Empire, was formerly selected by special decree to be the heir-in-succession of the late Emperor Tung Chih (the present Emperor's immediate predecessor.—Translator). Last year, however, the Boxer disturbances were started, which led to hostilities with the various Powers, and this resulted in the abandonment of the Temples and tablets of our Imperial Ancestors; the shaking to its foundation of the whole fabric of the Empire; and the flight for refuge elsewhere of the Imperial Court. Subsequent investigations by us have now shown us that the chief author of all these troubles is the cashiered Tsai Yi, ex-Prince Tuan, who by his conduct has sinned deeply against our Imperial Ancestors. Now, as Tsai Yi has already been severely punished and banished, it is hardly right that such a man's son should be made Heir-Apparent to the Throne. Moreover Pu Chün himself feels borne down by the shame and disgrace of his father's conduct, and he has therefore voluntarily appealed to us to disinherit him. We ourselves feel it proper that Pu Chün's prayer should be granted and the decree appointing him Heir-Apparent be cancelled. Pu Chün is therefore hereby relieved of his title of Heir-Apparent (Ta A-koe) and is commanded to leave the precincts of the Inner Palace immediately. By extra Imperial grace we hereby bestow upon Pu Chün the brevet title of a Duke of the 1st Order, with liberty to draw the salary and allowances attached to the rank; he is moreover excused from the duties at Court usually incumbent upon the holders of such rank. As for the selection of another Heir-Apparent, as this is a matter of vital importance, it will be necessary to wait and select some well-behaved and talented person for the post when the Empress Dowager will issue another decree announcing her choice. Let this edict be made known to the whole Empire.

DEPARTURE OF THE HON. H. E. POLLOCK.

By the s.s. *Eastern* on the 13th inst. there left the Colony the Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C., late Acting Attorney General, who proceeds to Fiji, via Australia, to take up the post of Attorney General there. When the news of Mr. Pollock's promotion was first announced, we mentioned that the satisfaction of all his friends at his success was tempered by the deeply felt regrets at the loss about to be sustained by the Colony. There are very many branches of our social life in which Mr. Pollock's departure will cause a blank. Apart from his great legal abilities, to which it was due that on several occasions before the last period he acted as Attorney General, and by which he helped to put through the Legislative Council several important Ordinances, he was well known in a variety of ways. He was, of course, the life and soul of the Hongkong Branch of the Navy League, to which he gathered numerous converts during his secretaryship. He worked with great energy in connection with the Odd Volumes Society. He was certainly one of the most charitable men of his means in the Colony, and many distressed persons have experienced his kindly aid. He founded the Hongkong Chess Club and was for some considerable time champion at that game here. In many other ways he made himself a familiar figure to residents, and the Colony is distinctly the poorer by his departure. The best wishes of all residents in Hongkong go with him.

TRIAL TRIP OF S. S. "BAKAN MARU."

The s.s. *Bakan Maru* ran her trial trip on the 8th inst. to Castle Peak Bay in splendid weather. It had been originally intended to steam round the Island, but owing to the fear that some of the guests might have an unpleasant time the shorter journey was elected. The *Bakan Maru* is a steamer of 470 tons gross designed for the Canton trade and belonging to the China Steamship Co., of Hongkong and Canton, Ltd. She has twin screws and triple expansion engines and was built in Japan. She was brought down to Hongkong some two months ago. In order to fit the vessel for the trade for which she is designed—the Canton carrying trade—she was overhauled by the Tung Tai Company and her awning deck was placed one tier higher, so that on this deck are row all the deck houses, etc. The *Bakan Maru* has a speed of 12 knots, her beam being 23 feet, her length 140 feet, and her depth of hold 9 feet. She has accommodation for 12 first-class passengers and 630 Chinese, second and third class. She has twin screw triple expansion engines. As regards her fittings the *Bakan Maru* is splendidly equipped. At the trial trip on the 8th inst. there were many guests. Among those present were Mr. H. F. Carmichael, superintendent of the Company, Mr. M. Mason, captain of the steamer; Mr. R. Hanson, engineer, Mr. V. E. Berg, mate; Mr. Muegens, Capt. Robinson, Capt. Walker, Messrs. W. A. Craik, Government Mercantile Surveyor, C. Cooke, R. Henderson, F. Fairweather, A. B. Edwards, F. R. Wilgress, L. D., Wilgress, F. W. H. Howell, Mrs. Kew, Mrs. Quinn, Mr. McLachlan, Mr. T. Meek, Messrs. T. Takayanagi, Acting Manager, N.Y.K., T. Arima, Manager, Osaka Shosen Kaisha, Mr. Fuk King Nam, general manager; Mr. Chan Yip Tong, chairman, Mr. Chan Fan Un, Mr. Liang Ngan Piun, Mr. Shean Shing Ping, Mr. Lian Tse Shan (manager of Chinese Merchants' Company), Mr. Chan Shewan (manager of King Win Company), Lin Tse Shan, China Merchants, Ho Sing Chou, Sam Wang, Lo Sing Lou, Harbour Department, Cheong Shun Sun, Kum Tak Tai, Ngan Hang Po, Causon A Foo and others. Altogether about 400 on board. On the trip Mr. Howell proposed the toast of "Success to the ship," to which were Captain W. M. Mason replied.

The Chinese Engineering and Mining Co's coal-steamers at Shanghai are now being transferred to the British flag. The *Heiping* hoisted her new flag at the end of November, and the *Yungping* and *Kwangping* last week.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 9th December.
WINTER.

Canton has been suddenly overtaken by winter, and the bulk of the population is greatly increased by the wadded coats it has assumed. Being dry cold it has not been felt as severely as if the air had been damp. The night of Wednesday-Thursday was the coldest, and a beggar was found in the streets the next morning dead of cold and exposure. No official inquest or enquiry is made in such circumstances, but the neighbours, unless a benevolent association can be persuaded to do it, subscribe to buy a coffin, and the funeral is performed as expeditiously as possible.

THE SHOE STRIKE.

Judgment was delivered this week by the magistrates in the case of the strike in the shoe-trade. It will be remembered that the craftsman's guild demanded an advance of 5 lie per pair, and the masters' association, not being strong enough to withstand them, appealed to the officials. Their decision grants the men a rise of 3½ lie per pair, and proclaims that any who now refuse to work and attempt to create further agitation will at once be arrested. A strike has lately been threatened by the makers of pens, but the masters have granted all the men's demands, a rise of 20 per cent. and have reimbursed themselves by correspondingly raising the price of pens.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR LI HUNG-CHANG.

On Tuesday the memorial service ordered by the Emperor for Li Hung-chang took place. The ceremony was dignified and not marred by the squalor which spoils so many Chinese solemnities. All arrangements were in the hands of the Nam Hoi and Pun Yu magistrates, and the procedure was based on the worship of the Imperial tablet performed at the New Year. The place chosen was the Government Printing Office, the reception-hall of which was decorated for the occasion. Every official in the province had sent a scroll with a suitable inscription, such as "a great man is dead," "Chinese and foreigners alike respected him," "The Bismarck of China" etc., and these were hung round the hall and in the passages by which it was reached. In the hall there was an altar bearing the tablet of the dead man with his posthumous name of "the learned and loyal." Two red candles burned in front of it and sacrifices were laid out. In front of the altar were mats for the officials to kneel on. At half-past eleven they arrived. The Viceroy was too ill to come, but all the others were there, headed by the Governor and Tartar General. These two last lighted incense sticks, and then the twelve greatest men in Canton prostrated themselves three times before the tablet, while a flute played softly. An essay written by the Viceroy in praise of his predecessor was next read out, and the paper burnt to convey it to the dead man's spirits. Libations were poured out, and the kowtow repeated closed the ceremony. There was a large crowd of attendants, the public not being allowed in and their behaviour was orderly and reverent. Prostrations were made later by the lesser officials, and continued until the city magistrates had performed the prescribed ritual.

THE BANNERMEN'S REVIEW.

Saturday and Sunday have been the gala-days of the banner force that garrisons Canton, on which their great review takes place. It is quinquennial, but an extra one is held on the arrival of a new Tartar General. For the last two days nearly 3,000 men, armed with chasse-pots, long guns managed by two men, bows and arrows, and 36 small field pieces, have been manoeuvring and firing blank cartridges on the parade ground. The first day partook of the nature of a circus. Two trenches were dug across the parade ground, along which the horses galloped, while their riders, such as did not tumble off, shot off guns in the air, fired at marks three foot distant—which they always missed—with bows and arrows, and illustrated swordsmanship on horseback. They then gave acrobatic exhibitions, lying on the horse's back, riding backwards, standing up with the help of a rope tied to the saddle and turning somersaults. It was not well done, but it was a surprise to find it

done at all. Followed some wrestling and some vaulting, in which for want of a wooden horse a real one was substituted. Two men held the head and two the hind legs of the animal. A review of children, the bannermen of years to come, finished the day's proceedings.

The second day was of the nature of a sham fight. There was much marching and retiring, blowing of trumpets and conch-shells, and firing of very ragged volleys. The bright uniforms made a pretty sight, and probably even their commanders did not take the manoeuvres very seriously. Finally they ranged up in two lines and bombarded each other at a distance of fifty yards. The soldiers looted and fired into the air with great rapidity, and in a quarter of an hour a very satisfactory amount of gunpowder must have been burnt.

CANTON'S ARTILLERY TRAINING.

The annual artillery practice begins in two days. Many coolies carry out the guns from the walls—obsolete weapons older than Trafalgar—to a village some five miles away, where for fifteen days they bombard a spur of the White Cloud Mountains, known as the Thin Dog Hill. Such guns as have not burst are then replaced, and left to rust for another year. This was not done last year, as it was considered that the city in the absence of the cannon would not be safe. Many coolies assemble on the hill and pounce on the balls, which they carry off and sell, and the proceedings are sometimes enlivened by the untimely end of one of these, who tries to stop a ball on its passage.

SWATOW

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Swatow, 2nd December.

VISIT OF THE TARIFF COMMISSIONERS.

H.M. storeship *Humber*, with Sir James Mackay, K.C.I.E., Mr. H. Cockburn, and three secretaries, arrived here on the 27th ult. They called on H. M. Consul and left the same day for Amoy.

A CONFLAGRATION.

Fires are, *mirabile dictu*, quite a rarity at this port. The last serious outbreak occurred over 18 months ago. On the Kialat Road, situated between the foreign and native Customs houses and abreast of the Presbyterian Mission Hospital, there was erected a large wooden structure which was used as a temporary joss-house. Here in the early morning of the 26th ult. a lamp was upset and, in less time than it takes to write it down, the whole place was ablaze, while it was gutted out entirely in about an hour's time. Thanks to the prompt arrival of three manual fire-engines, the fire, which looked at first threatening, was prevented from spreading.

SEQUEL TO THE HSINGNING AFFAIR.

The Basel Mission claim on account of the late Triad outbreak at Hsingning has now been definitely settled, and the Chinese have to indemnify them to the full extent of \$2,000.

COLD-BLOODED HOMICIDE.

Quite a tragic affair was enacted at Kitting-yong, a large place 30 miles distant from here. A farmer there had a cow offered to him for sale, which he considered very cheap and hence coveted much. Not having the required amount to buy the animal, he asked his wife to go to a certain relative of hers, who had only lately returned from the Straits and was living in the same place, to try to obtain the money wherewith to purchase the cow. The wife repaired to her relative, who in compliance with her request, gave her \$40. She then left and on her way back to her home met three Chinese nuns, to whom in the course of conversation, she in her exalted frame of mind related the purpose of the visit to her relative and its successful result. Just as the four passed a sugar-cane plantation, where the height of the canes was extremely high, the nuns overcome by cupidity, pushed the woman into an opening of the plantation, where they shockingly bit her, half strangled her and left her in a dying condition. They then took the \$40 and departed.

DISCOVERY OF THE CRIME.

In the struggle to force the woman down among the sugar-canes, a basket belonging to her was left lying outside the plantation, which served as a clue and led to the discovery of the crime. It so happened that a hawk

passed along and, seeing the basket, picked it up and slung it on his carrying pole. His way took him past the husbandman's house. He was anxiously expecting the return of his wife, whose prolonged absence made him very solicitous. Seeming to recognise the basket which the pedlar carried, he questioned him where he got it and, on being informed, suspected foul play and requested the man to accompany him to the place. On arrival there they instituted a search and found the woman at her last gasps. Previous to her death, her husband asked her by pointing at the hawk if he had committed this crime, which the woman by a movement of her hand negatived; subsequently thereupon she moved her hand over her head, indicating thereby the act of shaving, and as the heads of nuns are clean-shaven, the farmer, who had seen the nuns pass his house, concluded that they must have been the perpetrators of this outrage. The matter was instantly reported to the resident Shien, who sent runners in pursuit of the nuns, who were intercepted as they were crossing over the river. Brought before the Shien they admitted everything, and after a brief trial were found guilty and sentenced to the most condign punishment known in the Chinese Empire, to wit, *lengchi*.

MISSIONARY INTERFERENCE.

The incident which I reported in my last communication under the above heading has now been settled. The boatman under arrest has been released after his relatives and the boatmen's guild conjointly paying \$300 as compensation, which has gone into the coffers of the Roman Catholic body.

VLADIVOSTOCK NOTES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Vladivostock, 28th November.

PROPOSED JAPANESE CONSULATE.

Japan has petitioned the Russian Government for permission to establish a Consulate at Vladivostock, as the present office of Commercial Agent does not answer the demands of Japanese subjects here.

A RUMOUR OF STEAMSHIP SALE.

It is rumoured that the s.s. *Habarovsk* of the Russian Volunteer Fleet, which has been anchored here for the last 3 or 4 months, will shortly be purchased by the Steamship Department of the Chinese Eastern Railway.

GOLD IN MANCHURIA.

In the vicinity of Hun-chun (Manchuria), not far from Vladivostock, rich gold-deposits have been discovered. By agreement with the Chinese authorities of that place, the gold-field was leased to Russians on condition that 15 per cent. of the total output be appropriated for the local Chinese administration, the latter agreeing to maintain 300 guards for the protection of the place. A joint stock company is being formed at Vladivostock for the development and exploitation of the gold-field.

SABLES IN KAMCHATKA.

In order to prevent the total extermination of the Kamchatka sable, a prohibition has been issued by the authorities at St. Petersburg forbidding sable-hunting in Kamchatka for a period of 3 years, beginning from the 1st January, 1932.

The proposed Memorial Hall in Singapore to Queen Victoria will adjoin the present Town Hall, and be on the site now occupied by the temporary Supreme Court. The building will contain on the ground floor a public hall and four ante-rooms, and will be capable of accommodating 850 persons. On the first floor will be a ball room capable of accommodating nearly 1,000 persons. The present Town Hall seats 370 persons on the ground floor and 370 on the first floor respectively. The new building will be of similar design to the present Town Hall but of loftier proportions. A central tower 150ft. high in the front and an arcade in the centre will connect the two blocks of buildings. On the completion of the Memorial Hall the present Town Hall will be utilised for supper-rooms, refreshment, card and retiring rooms, etc., in connection with the adjoining building. The cost is estimated approximately at \$250,000. The plans have been approved.

MANILA.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Manila, 3rd December.

HOW THE SUPREME COURT'S DECISION
AFFECTS THE PHILIPPINES.

The cabled news that the Supreme Court of the United States has decided, in the Diamond Rings case, that the Philippines are United States territory and that the imposition of duty is improper, has thrown the city into a jubilant frame of mind. No matter what the outcome everyone feels that a great step has been made in the progress of the country. The wording of the cablegram is somewhat ambiguous and opens the way to many constructions, some far more extensive than others. This first message was received about noon to-day and at half past five o'clock a more complete statement was cabled by the *Times* Washington correspondent, as follows: "The Supreme Court in the *Pepke* case decides against the government. The ruling is to the effect that all articles from the Philippines must be admitted free of duty until Congress enacts special tariff legislation for the Archipelago. The power of Congress to do this was upheld in the *Puerto Rico* case and it is expected that it will precipitate special legislation for the Philippines."

From these messages the papers and the business men draw their own conclusions and each one fits the shoe to his own foot. On the whole a rather too broad and premature view has been taken of the matter. Interested merchants are naturally anxious for the refunding of the duties on American goods, which have been paid under protest during the last three years, and in this message they see a hope of suddenly swelled bank accounts. Others claim that it means a large possibility of free trade between the United States and the Philippines. At any rate it will be a grand "boost" for the growing commerce if Philippine products are to be admitted free into the home country. Hemp, tobacco and sugar industries will be immensely benefited. But because Philippine goods are admitted free into the United States, the converse does not necessarily follow, viz, that United States goods will be admitted free into the Philippines. Neither is there any great likelihood of the protested duties, amounting to some \$7,000,000, being refunded to the merchants. Such refunding would be manifestly unjust as the money would not go to the parties who paid it, namely the consumers, but to the merchants who have already added the duties in the selling price. Besides it is very doubtful if there can be any reasonable question over these duties as they were levied under the extensive war-power of the Chief Executive.

The military authorities are not particularly interested in the decision—as it has no immediate visible effect on them, except that it allows them to send their property and presents home duty free. Their policy and progress are not altered.

At the time of writing the civil authorities have received no official notification of the action of the Supreme Court and they naturally take a very conservative view of the situation. With them the consensus of opinion seems to be that the message means this and nothing more—the Supreme Court has decided that the President has no authority to apply the Dingley Tariff by order, as Commander in Chief, to goods coming into the United States from the Philippine Islands, because the law expressly applies only to goods imported from foreign countries, and the Philippine Islands, since the treaty of cession, are not a foreign country but are the property of the United States. As far as can be ascertained this view comes nearest to being the correct interpretation.

THE PATTERSON CASE.

An application has been made for a writ of Habeas Corpus for Mr. Patterson, the secretary of Sixto Lopez and the matter is being threshed out in the Supreme Court at Manila. The present efforts are to cause the Court to investigate Collector Schuster's actions and reasons for demanding the oath of allegiance to the United States from Mr. Patterson. It is possible that a result of this case will be the modification of the form of the oath.

BRITISH NORTH BORNEO.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

Labuan, Borneo.

GOVERNMENT BY CORPORATION.

With profit as its primary and essential object, whatever lofty or humanitarian motive may actuate it collaterally, the government of British North Borneo has undergone experiences which may suggest something of value to those who count on quick and bounteous returns to the public treasury from Mindanao, as soon as the removal of Congressional checks upon corporate enterprise shall make that island inviting to capital. Borneo blossomed into fame as a garden of the sun while the world was yet unacquainted with the southern Philippines. It may be, as is declared, that it enjoyed a certain savage splendour of prosperity in centuries whose local record only vague tradition preserves. Its lost estate in everything except land and story, so that for present purposes it stands upon a record quite new. But for one of those slips by which men and money fail to connect, an American company might now be guiding its fortunes. When the assets of that company had dwindled to a scheme that could not be marketed and a concession that had run out, the present company stepped in. It is not to be supposed that advice will be sought or lessons accepted in the management of the sun-gardens which the Americans are about to open, the new gardener preferring to work in his own way and to profit by his own errors. Yet it will not be disputed that British Borneo has enjoyed direction that has been careful, intelligent, and thoroughly up-to-date, and that there may be features in its rule of twenty years to entitle it to the interest of a friendly neighbour who must deal with similar surroundings of climate, soil, and human environment.

Although Borneo government began wholly with private capital, having dividends in view, it has never aimed at its own enrichment through direct trade. It engaged with the Crown when it obtained a Royal Charter that it would not reserve for itself, or authorise in others, a general monopoly of trade. Its colonisers thus had the assurance of a fair field for their enterprises, and they have continually enjoyed it. Of late the government has undertaken telegraphic and railroad construction, in regard to which it may be said, should justification be needed, that there would have been neither telegraph nor railroad except with government money. They promise a development of resources sufficient to remunerate the government in general revenues, a prospect that must appeal to stockholders, considering that territory stands them a net outlay approaching £800,000 and that the £70,000 of public collections now reached in a year practically disappear in the cost of administration and other charges. Existing assets would doubtless be estimated by impartial accountants as worth much more than the money outlay which they represent, but twenty years of patient trial have cooled expectations in regard to a Borneo boom, and probably even those shareholders who invested because they could find no other use for their money, would not be averse to some token to relieve posterity of the entire burden of swelling income on this account.

What was set forth at the start did not overstate the productive capacity of the soil, which will doubtless yield all that was claimed for it. If all had worked according to a programme yet plausible, the territory would now support a large and busy population, and a government resting lightly upon the people would have an overflowing treasury. In the first ten years of its existence, government operated at a loss, enjoying then, as now, a soil quite as fertile as that of Mindanao, and as rich in products to be easily plucked, tapped or dug, and sent to a market eager to pay well for them. The second ten years have recorded no losses, although but slight gains. The general inventory now shows a well-equipped administrative outfit. Government House, residencies, customs, police, and hospitals; natives generally peaceable and friendly; a half dozen settlements that may be classed as important; the capital Sandakan, containing 7,000 people; about 100 miles of railroad into the jungle

that skirts and penetrates the west coast, that will cost nearly £2,000 per mile; a telegraph line across the island and in process of extension to coast stations, 500 miles in all, which has so far cost £57 per mile; and 31,000 square miles of land, of which not twenty per cent. has become of the slightest practical use. Perpetual leases of about 1,000,000 acres of land have been issued to tobacco-planters, who use yearly at a maximum one-seventh of their holdings, so that a field may not be taxed with a crop oftener than once in seven years.

Population at the beginning was estimated at 200,000. That estimate has not since been exceeded, although it now includes from 17,000 to 150,000 Chinese, employed mainly on the tobacco-plantations, in which alone European capital has become interested on a large scale, and 300 Europeans, covering those in government service, in trade, and as managers and overseers at the plantations. Some of the plantations extend inland by a day's trip or further, but otherwise white enterprise clings as closely as possible to the coast, which fever finds less secure abiding place than in the jungle; and companionship eases the enervations of perpetual summer. The interior remains much as it was. No one knows enough of it to say precisely what changes, if any, are occurring among the natives. If the addition of 15,000 Chinese to the original population has not increased the total, it would seem plain that native numbers must be lessening. Occasionally there has been a hint of some pest like smallpox falling upon a tribe. Report leaves the rest to the imagination. Since the government is pledged to extend protection to all within its borders, the constabulary does its best to run down crime and to check disorder, but in general native life needs little supervision, and gets little. The few outbreaks that have occurred under the government testify to the willingness of the natives to submit to white rule, to contribute to its support in a small way, and to help along trade to the extent of their own necessities or wants, by bringing to market such products as they can easily gather. Out of the total exports last year valued at £338,600 tobacco shipments comprised nearly £170,000 in value. The forests in which the territory abounds, quite similar to those in Mindanao, and which have been considered capable of supplying the South China market with choice woods, yielded for export a value of £28,000. Coffee-planting has made no substantial headway. Gutta-percha yielded £20,000, an increase of £8,000 over exports for the preceeding year, but a small quantity in comparison with the amount that might be produced. Of indiarubber, shipments were valued at £7,500. Government encourages in every possible way the development of timber and forest interests, but it has taken until now to reach this volume, although there is a ready market for products at prices that insure good profits on all that can be sent out. Imports, mainly for common sustenance, reach nearly the volume of exports. The trouble is to organise labour for that purpose. Men will brave the dizzy crags for edible birds' nests who fear the breath of the jungle through which they must go to reach the timber-lands. Tobacco-planters say that in former years they estimated that every picul of leaf cost a coolie. The industry became profitable enough to make the health of such help an important consideration, and of late every plantation has a hospital, and physicians are kept within easy call, some of them under contract to several plantations in the same district. A coolie can work off the advance made to him on leaving home, and become a free agent within a few months if his health holds out, but how many of that class failed to meet this condition and were heard of no more, is a problem that is never computed in public, if anyone knows how to work it. The death-rate is probably now normal, after years of experience and solicitude to make it so; but even yet, as trade figures show, enterprise has not the means to utilise properly its opportunities, and it cannot be questioned that despite the efforts of a well-directed and fostering government, the greater part of North Borneo still runs to inglorious seed. Nor need there be disparagement of native industry in stating this result. According to their standards they are an

industrious people. They bring to market skins, mattings, beeswax, copra, cotton, fruits, hides, Lemp, horns, ivory, rice, rattans, and shells—contributing to export values from £10,000 to £12,000 per year. The fact that such exports have been constantly increasing certifies further to their interest in a government which gives them the only protection they have ever enjoyed and puts within their reach comforts of living formerly unknown. They have, indeed, a certain civic pride, and feel honoured with government appointments as tribal chiefs, an honour apparently to which sex is no bar, as witness a recent official announcement that Audu Muntri is appointed Government Chief at Putatan, Province Keppel, vice his mother, the Government Chieftainess. Muntri Sabu, deceased. Increasing exports hold out promise that in time they may work efficiently the land that they know. The light duties levied upon such exports will hardly now pay for policing the districts in which they are gathered.

Twenty years of direct government were preceded by observations, more or less close, of conditions in the territory ever since this place became a British colony in 1847, that interval of 35 years having contributed at least something to the establishment of native good feeling toward the whites which has generally prevailed. Disorder has at times taken serious turns, but it has never had behind it widespread native sympathy. There could be no better evidence of friendliness than the discontinuance of tribal headhunting, the abolition of native slavery, and the cessation of practices which the natives supposed, not by command but instinctively, would offend their new sovereign. What they knew as banting-marrow was their primitive customs service, calculated to exact toll on all the streams from every passing boat. A voyager would find the passage blocked by a tangle of rattans stretched across it and securely fastened at the banks. If he knew the way of the country and wished to avoid trouble, he would look up the preemptor of that particular run and pay him his price to remove the obstruction. Rattan cables were as common in the Borneo streams as were *lekis* stations in the old days in China waters. They blocked the way at every bend. Failure to respect their significance involved heavy risks, for while fees were wholly personal, the collectors had a common interest in preventing evasion of payment, and it behoved a voyager daring enough to cut through the barriers to have his craft well defended, and under guard day and night, for he might be sure that the collectors were after him in a pack. A capture under those circumstances exacted a penalty known as *semangup*. The person taken was tied to a tree, with his arms outstretched and his feet just off the ground. Then the captors approached him singly and addressed him with soft phrase, wishing him a pleasant journey to Kina Balu, begging him to convey their several respects to relatives and friends gone before to that bourne, each closing his polite appeal with a gentle spear-thrust, never more than an inch deep, into the body of the captive. Care was taken to avoid the puncture of vital parts, for that would have ended too soon the pleasure of the chase. A captive might thus last for several hours, regaled all the time with nice compliments, and with toasts to his health as he looked from his perch down upon the midday meal. He might also divert himself, if he chose, in wondering in which effects, among those of his well-wishers, he would need to search for his head, in the event of a bodily resurrection. It rarely happened that a voyager alone would incur the perils of cutting through a rattan barrier. When several joined in that feat, the zest of chase was stimulated by the prospect of *semangup*ing a syndicate, a long and joyous operation, with perhaps heads enough to go round at the end. Occasionally even now a native applies to a government officer for permission to *semangup* someone who has mortally offended him, but the tribe among whom the ceremony was most common have deferred to official opinion, in respect to the value of human life, and work off their surplus vengeance on pigs. Moreover, banting-marrow has become a lost art in North Borneo.

Native industry should not be dismissed without allusion to the pearl fisheries for which the

waters hereabouts have become famous. Of course pearls breed here, and equally everybody knows that they are not to be shovelled off the beach. But as an industry pearl-fishing can flourish only under systematic supervision or where the supply is so abundant that it can be easily gathered. This section enjoys neither fortune. Seed pearls are hawked every day; a find really worth having turns up only rarely. If the search may be called an industry, it is a most precarious one. Last year's exports were worth £260 against £1,280 in the preceding year—all of seed pearls. Probably the London directors attach small importance to chances in this line. They seem, indeed, of late to have been coddling the hope that the Segaman River district contains gold. As this river reaches the coast and may be worked for alluvial deposits without special difficulty, some of the shareholders fail to understand why miners should continue blind to the easy chances thus set before them. Gold-tracings in that district were announced in the early years of the company's existence. There has been talk of offering substantial rewards for those who would locate rich deposits, a step well worth taking, in view of the company's intention to exact from grantees one-quarter of their yield from reef-mining and one-fifth from dredging. At every general meeting in London it seems necessary for the directors to deliver themselves upon the gold prospects. They have kept so far quite within bounds in saying that the district has not yet developed into a Klondyke, considering that results there are quite barren. It is probably comforting for them to think, however, that the land contains gold, and that when it may at last be mined company shares will advance materially.

Reliance for dividends rests happily upon a basis less speculative. In the mining line, coal is no doubt to be had. A mine near this place has been operated with varying fortunes since Labuan was a colonial possession, with no company to which to attach itself for supervision. Mishaps, due to inability to get the coal out rather than to lack of it, forced the operators to abandon work in 1879. The present operating company finds £1 shares quoted at a shilling because flood has no respect for the share market or the other exigencies of business. Deliveries at the harbour get immediate sale, offered at seven dollars per ton—or 14 shillings—a constant supply at this price insuring fine returns to the mine owners. The supply has been so inconstant that a mine down the coast has been dumping part of its product here and getting 18 shillings per ton for it. Hope has taken another fresh start at Labuan under a new manager, who is convinced that he can overcome obstacles heretofore baffling and justify the confidence of those who have stood by the company in misfortune. Coal has been found also on the East coast, where the outlook promises so well that Sandakan expects to become a port of call for coaling ships on the run from Hongkong to the southern islands and Australia. If Zamboanga has similar aspirations, it is in danger of being forestalled, unless it bestirs itself to put forth substantial inducement. The railroad is wholly in the western region. Its immediate purpose will be satisfied if it can induce settlement, and the consequent increase of exports from a soil in whose productive capabilities implicit reliance may be placed.

Light duties are charged on both imports and exports. Tobacco going out pays one dollar, or two shillings, per picul; a tax not at all burdensome to planters in view of the low rates at which they are able to obtain perpetual leases of land, and the protection which the government furnishes. Average duties will not exceed five per cent. *ad valorem*. There is talk of advancing them in order to appease a home hunger for dividends. Among the threatened transfers from the free to the duty list is soda water, which comes as near being a necessity in European households as any article imported. If this shall really occur, the afflicted will lay it to a bit of impatience in the Lew Governor, who was obliged soon after his arrival to call off an official At Home on the ground that the cases of soda that he had ordered for that occasion had not come, and who has not since then felt quite easy in his mind toward soda. Chinese might stand an advance in duty on the birds' nests and camphor, which are sent to

China, but the straining point might soon be reached on articles of export intended for wider markets, where where they will encounter competition such as gambier, sago, rice, and rattans. A project is in hand in Sandakan to organise a company to be operated in American territory, Puerta Princesa, Palawan, and there deal in rattans, rubber, gutta-percha, hides, and whatever else may offer, so long as the Borneo tariff may show a profit in that course.

Since bidding for immigration is likely to succeed for permanent account if it does not only improve the condition of those who may come but also make means of living tolerably easy for them, the government will probably look to other sources than customs for the bulk of its revenues. Present plans do not entertain any proposition for white colonisation. That was an old dream, whose awakening contented itself with the growth of corporate enterprise needing white management, a slow but not unsatisfactory process, for there are thirty or more companies at work on a large scale, and earning fairly good returns. Revenue can be much more easily derived from farming privileges for opium, spirits, pawnbroking, gambling, markets, birds' nests, blachar, and wharf-dues than from all other sources put together. There is a stamp tax, a local coinage currency mainly copper but including a few notes, and returns dribble in from land sales. Much as the government might like to fill its treasury from collections wholly righteous, twenty years have not been long enough to make that possible. Farming collections suit the immigrants and are cheerfully paid. The company counts on them for the future. Probably neither coal nor railroad development will serve to abolish them. Missionaries have been useful in conducting the only schools in the company's territory. Had they had the way otherwise than that they profess to seek, government would have worked all these years to a deficit.

CHINESE LABOUR IN BORNEO.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

Labuan, British North Borneo.

While the bars are high against the admission of Chinese into the Philippines, British North Borneo holds its door wide open and is beckoning that class of immigration to enter. Human perversity finds curious illustration in the effect of these diverse labour policies in neighbouring lands, for effort applies itself quite as sedulously in Borneo to get Chinese in as it does in the Philippines to keep them out. In the Philippines immediate earning power may be the greater, but Borneo offers compensations which would seem to appeal to Chinese interest, such as land holdings under perpetual free lease, and license to smoke opium, gamble, and follow other home customs to which American authorities would not dare give legal sanction. The Borneo policy is well settled, the chief inducement to the governing company in agreeing to pay annuities of £2,300 to the Sultans of Brunei and Sulu for the use of the territory having probably been the prospect that here would be a welcome outlet for some of the millions overcrowding China. There are plantations turned into Chinese graveyards, many immigrants have gone home alive, and 20,000 remain. Accurate computation of the number of arrivals cannot be made, for records do not run back far enough. If it be put at 100,000 in twenty years that number will not much exceed the total of Chinese arrivals in the Philippines in the same time, and not approach the total that would have been, had American law permitted. Borneo can accommodate 5,000,000, and would be glad to have them.

Lord Aberdeen once said at a meeting in London of the Geographical Society, of which he was President, that Borneo contained nearly as much unknown land as any portion of the globe of equal dimensions. It was proposed to overcome this condition by filling with Chinese that part of Borneo over which the company had acquired suzerainty. North Borneo was not only to give England a strategic stronghold in the China Sea midway between Singapore and Hongkong, but it was to open a new and rich field for trade. Trade growth in twenty years up to £600,000 a year, divided about equally

between exports and imports, has doubtless fallen short of original expectations, whatever its promise now. Such hopes had large colonisation in view, an end of which the governing company has at no time lost sight, and which it yet strives to promote as the one sure means of making its investment profitable. The territory has been explored. Any part of it may probably be visited without native interference. As a source of trade commensurate with its possibilities, the territory is in a condition which Lord Aberdeen's remarks would not untruthfully fit, if reprinted to-day.

There has been no change of plan from the beginning, in regard to development. It was to be accomplished through ample supplies of free labour from China. No thought ever turned to white labour, against which the theory prevailed, no doubt with sufficient basis, that it could not stand the climate. European administration and capital and Chinese labour would speedily advance Borneo toward the activity and importance marked out by destiny for the islands which border the commercial highways of the Pacific. This sounded most attractive, especially in view of the proximity of Borneo to the China coast. Experience in other territory hereabout under British domination, as in Malaya and Ceylon, had condemned native labour as worthless. Since Chinese had sought distant markets for their toil, no reason could be imagined to restrain them from trooping to a land almost at their own threshold, with inducements of good pay, of freedom to retain their customs, and of opportunity to return home easily. Borneo, a soil on which nature had planted nothing to sustain human life, was to be made prolific by a people who might get from it, in addition to their own support, products for remunerative outside markets. Prosperity awaited merely the coming of field hands, gardeners, carpenters, miners, and every class of labour. This irresistible prospect looked well for the operating company. Customs collections from the product of Chinese labour, satisfactory as they could be, had been found to weigh light in comparison with the revenue obtainable from Chinese on account of their vices. When Rajah Brooke's neighbouring precinct of Sarawak had only 3,000 Chinese, they paid in indirect taxes more than 250,000 Malays and Dyaks. In 1874, with 7,000 Chinese there, returns from opium, spirits, and other Chinese farms amounted to £14,000 per year. Further colonisation for gambier and pepper planting increased the farming returns almost at once by £9,000, and raised the total revenue to £50,000. It is now steadily about £65,000, of which farming licenses furnish nearly half. Results in Singapore on a larger scale, and in the Malay Peninsula, justified the reckoning that no Chinese would be worth less than £2 per year to a colony. They might become worth from £3 to £4 each if they were prosperous, for while industrious and saving, conditions enabling them to indulge generous impulses had always found them liberal in their households and free in their personal expenses. The superlative merit of this scheme lay in its high productiveness without imposing a dollar of direct tax upon the individual. The Chinese were to think they lived in a free country while they really paid the bulk of its revenue. A few hundred thousand of such immigrants, at £2 each per year for the government, would be worth capturing as an item of revenue; and for revenue the company had entered into the business of government.

Excessive mortality among the early immigrants probably made more difference to the European planters who had brought them over than to anybody in China. Planters had to pay ship-passage, advance wages and commissions to agents. If fever struck a coolie down before he could work out that advance the planter mourned a pocket-loss. It cost £5 per coolie to bring them out. Wages at under £2 per month made it eminently desirable that the coolie should last at least through one season. Climate claimed a place along with time and tide in respect to the affairs of men in those years, and the early course of private enterprise under the new government is marked with financial wrecks. Borneo breeds a mischievous fever but since it hardly could be surer in its aim than massacre, just reason cannot be traced for the handicap which colonising

efforts here have always carried. No one can explain why Borneo should want labour from China when a general slaughter at Manila proved a stimulus to Chinese trade. The philosophy which underlies the acquisition of the dollar in China and which led the Canton Viceroy to dismiss lightly—"no matter, plenty more Chinese"—the Spanish Governor's apologies for the Manila massacre, would seem in place here, where no Chinese is expected to become a Christian, and where as a heathen he may draw a lucky number against fever.

Regardless of cause, Chinese have not come to Borneo in numbers to stock the labour market to its capacity at any time, they have never come, as they go elsewhere, to take chances of work, but always with an advance and guarantee and when they work off the obligations under their contracts they demand increased pay. Failing to secure the increase, they cut loose for the settlements, to set up in business or to continue coolie service at rates about as high as Manila has to pay. They prefer to buy rice rather than to grow it, and although exports last year reached a value of £3,200, mainly from two provinces, they were offset by imports of more than £60,000 for the entire territory. The increase of beri-beri among them has been attributed by medical analysts to mould or some toxic ingredient that they get with the rice they import. They find more comfort in the pipe and more pleasure in the game than in the quality of their food, which meets requirements when it fills.

Difficulty in obtaining Chinese has led to changes in plantation management which original plans did not contemplate. While the government is chiefly concerned in earning revenues that will pay dividends on the shares, it naturally supposed that the investment interest which it would protect would be English. That prospect looked well at first, but with the abandonment of plantations by English companies, Dutch planters or companies took some of them in hand. They found that they could make better terms for themselves with an English administration than with their own, in the southern part of the island. Most of them were already experienced in tobacco-planting, knew the climate and how to handle labour here, and could keep themselves in closer touch than could the English with crop news from Sumatra and the market outlook in Amsterdam, where Borneo tobacco receives its quotations. The Dutch now grow nearly all of the tobacco, which is by far the largest item on the export list. They brought with them coolies from Java and Sumatra, who had the advantages of training in tobacco fields and of reasonable immunity from the attacks of climates. There were not enough of such coolies to go around, and these who came did so well that the government decided to let China go its own way and try the Dutch island for immigrants. To this proposition the Dutch authorities opposed a veto, not by blunt refusal but by expressions of fear that the Borneo climate might be too trying for their subjects, and insisting upon proof to the contrary. This government returned a plea filled with circumstance and statistics, but the Dutch accepted it in a diplomatic sense and closed the incident. Nothing remained for the English except to fall back on China. Every ship returning takes some. There have been more arrivals than departures nearly every year. Those who come have government medical service, every plantation has an apothecary and most of them doctors. For all that the yellow man continues to betray such insecurity of mortal tenure as leaves the labour market always hungry. Recent arrivals for the construction of the railroad on the west coast may be estimated from a draft for £9,000 which the contractor forwarded the other day to a commission agent in Hongkong, in settlement for a coolie cargo at £5 per head. The contractor runs a hospital, in which room is in demand.

It is in the railway section that the government hopes to induce Chinese colonisation. The bright newspaper which reflects officials, social and commercial life from Sandakan, the capital, calls the project "A Financial Master-stroke," which it is hoped "will go a long way toward realising the company's dream of establishing a thriving Chinese settlement. The work to be had on the railway at present, and

for several months to come, is a grand opportunity for the Chinese coolie, and should attract many hundreds. Once they are there, the fertility of the soil, the abundance of timber and the enticement to explore the country and trek toward the healthy interior, should keep them there. There is no doubt that every Chinese inhabitant is worth a good deal to the country. Our Chairman puts it at £2 per man annually, and the revenue derived from the permanent establishment of a thrifty and ever increasing Chinese population would clearly reach a very large sum, even in the short period of three or four years, and in twenty years that particular source of revenue would be increased about five-fold. The "master-stroke" appears to be a plan devised by Land Commissioner Henry Walker, and printed for circulation in China. It offers five acres of land free for each married couple who may agree to settle on the line of the railway, also twenty dollars for each adult for passage money and small expenses. Upon reaching the railway, the men may obtain work on the line at forty cents per day, or thirty cents per cubic yard for earth-cutting, or thirty cents each for sawing wood sleepers. Before settling upon a piece of land, the applicant must pay \$7.62 for survey and title for 999 years. Subsistence money may be borrowed from the government, but as work and wages are ready, it is not expected that anyone will apply for a loan. The master-stroke proceeds to explain that Borneo is only four days and one half from Hongkong, advises that passage be taken for Labuan, which is 25 miles from the railway, and declares that Chinese at work on the railway are healthy, with a doctor handy in case of need. There is plenty of timber, and water wheels may be built in the neighbouring streams. After the building of the railway, the export of sleepers and logs to China should provide employment for many men. At the upper end of the railway, hills are high, and the climate good. Tea can be grown there as well as in Java or Ceylon.

Several months have passed since this prospectus was placarded in China. Labour for the railroad meanwhile has been hired in the old way, by sending to a labour agent an order to engage coolies and promising £5 per head for all deliveries. £1 is said to be left for the coolie after payment of passage and commissions. Nearly all the help that the railroad contractor has was engaged in that way. No coolies are reported to have responded for China to the happy effort of the Land Commissioner. Settlements along the road might be started by those now employed on that work, if they find the allurements of the country sufficiently strong. The road ought to be in operation early next year. Since garden crops may be grown rapidly thrifty labourers might tide themselves over until crops of longer growth and better market value can mature, thus giving the country a trial for at least a full season. First returns need not be specially encouraging to hold that colony and possibly to increase it. A long stay might lead to the planting of coconut trees, sugar-cane and gambier. Tapioca promises so well that the government has a standing offer to young men with a capital of £2,000 or more, of a free grant of 500 acres of land for that purpose and for cinchona, coffee and tea. In a small way the Chinese settlers might try a hand at those products. That is probably the way a beginning must be made, for while all of the growths may thrive, experiments with them so far have not shown attractive commercial results.

Unless North Borneo has an unlucky mark against it, good management ought to contrive with the means at hand to attract a Chinese population. Sarawak has greater area and more people than North Borneo, but it is much further south in the island, out of the direct line of trade, and it is not claimed to be physically superior to this territory. The personal force of Sir James Brooke and of his nephew, Sir Charles Johnson Brooke, the present Rajah, have made it what it is. They have had it for sixty years and it does more business, perhaps on that account, than this territory. The labour needs there have been supplied quietly and with great advantage to the revenues of the Rajah. Several times when he had use for more Chinese, he arranged for them, and they came in according

to schedule, no one knowing much of it until their arrival. He is bringing into the colony from as far north as Foochow. The way he did it was to make a contract with a Chinese to deliver 2,000 men with their families, in two years. Half the deliveries will have been made by the end of this year. Foochow men often leave home to work in near-by provinces, returning when they can save enough strings of cash for a rest. This is the first time there has been a colonisation of such magnitude. The immigrants will come at least 1,500 miles. Those who can stand the climate will raise their families in Sarawak and become part of the permanent population. North Borneo seems to be relying on the publicity of an advertisement rather than upon the persuasion of an emissary as a means of drawing colonists. There may be no exception to the excellent rule that advertising pays, but it would look as if China furnished such an exception from the experience of the two colonies. What reliance on the railroad may do is quite conjectural. Sarawak prospers without a railroad, all its trade going by water. The Malay Peninsula is enjoying unprecedented prosperity, but there might be a different story to tell of its few lines of unconnected roads, were it not for the increasing wealth of its tin-mines. The Northern Borneo road aims at enlarging the marketably productive area in one corner of that territory and thus improving its revenues through a class of colonists who will be worth to it uncertain returns from duties on their exports, but an assured £2 per head for their follies.

Doubtless Borneo can never be settled altogether by Europeans. Whether in the process of making it serve white enterprise it may become so inviting to Chinese that they will seek it as they have sought other lands, forecast must be idle. A beginning stretched over twenty years has not yet furnished satisfying results in that line. However well laid may be the foundations for moderately progressive government, some of the golden fancies of the governing company's promoters, have already been dissipated. Possibly it will be the office of time to class Chinese colonisation among them.

PEKING.

Peking, 22nd November.

THE GREAT SNOW-STORM.

The snow which began at noon on Tuesday, the 12th inst., proved to be the biggest snow-storm that has been known here among foreigners. Very seldom has a snow-storm come as soon. The snow fell some six inches, and on Wednesday the city was robed in white—more clean than Peking has ever been.

THE EVACUATION.

I mentioned in my last that the American guard was the last to leave Chinese quarters. I failed to recall that the Japanese guard have not yet moved into their barracks. They still occupy the palace of the late Prince Chuang. This palace ought to be confiscated.

THE JAPANESE

have had many princely palaces under their oversight, besides holding three of the Gates of the Forbidden City. They early destroyed the palace of Prince Tuan. They occupied the palace of Prince Lien and Duke Lan, brothers of Prince Tuan. They protected the palaces of Prince Kung, Prince Ching, Prince Chun, and Prince Jin.

THE RETURN OF THE COURT.

It is pretty well established that the Court including both the Dowager and the Emperor, will start back a few days after the Dowager's birthday, which is the 20th. It is also learned that Viceroy Yuan Shikai will start about the same time and meet the Court on the way.

H.E. YUAN SHIKAI.

The trustworthiness of the new Viceroy is not proved. His attitude during the Emperor's régime in 1898 makes us view him dubiously. As Jung Lu secured for him the position of commander of the new foreign-trained troops, he naturally feels it his duty to be loyal to Jung Lu. His new position, coming from the Empress Dowager, will make him loyal to her. How loyal will he be to the Emperor or to reform, when he comes so near the capital? Many Manchus are suspicious of him, because of his

well-trained army. How he will act will be an interesting study.

THE RETURN OF PRINCE CHUN.

The young Prince Chun arrived this afternoon. He was received with great honour. A guard of Chinese soldiers and a good representative company of officials awaited him. From the station they proceeded through Legation Street, and thence to his palace in the extreme north of the city. We fancy he will be inclined to continue his acquaintance with foreign dignitaries.

PRINCE SU.

Of the other princes, Prince Su is the only one keen on foreign intercourse and improvements. Besides learning English, he has a German to give military drill to his son and the sons of his attendants.

PRINCE KUNG

now and then sees a foreigner, but is not very enthusiastic in the matter. Outside of these, Manchu nobility is as narrow as ever.

ADMIRAL ALEXIEFF

has left for Port Arthur. His command is then in Liaotung, Shanhaikwan, and Chihli. General Wozack was also here. Both of these gentlemen were extremely agreeable to the representatives of other countries.

A CONCERT

We have also had a Russian concert, given by a company from Europe, and held in the new Peking Club. The rooms were hardly finished, and the cold was intense. The audience was not large. Part of the company took part in the services last Sunday at the Russian Church.

THE MANCHURIAN CONVENTION.

The Russian Convention concerning Manchuria is awaiting the return of Prince Ching. It is now understood that he, and not Wang Wenshao, is ordered to sign it. There is no large amount of interest taken in the matter. The Chinese suppose other Powers will oppose it, but in this they are mistaken. The merchants of other countries will only need to consult with Russia rather than China as to trade privileges in Manchuria. There is not much to fear in this, seeing that even the British have more trade in Russia than in China.

A COREAN LEGATION.

We hear that the present quarters of the American Legation, which are owned by Col. Denby, are to be sold to the Korean Government for their Legation. The American Legation will therefore be compelled to hurry up the building of quarters for its men.

THE WHIRLIGIG OF TIME.

A Korean Legation will be a new thing for Peking. The former tribute-bearers will now come as Envoys Extraordinary to be received by the Chinese Emperor with the same honours as the Ministers of Great Britain or Russia.

THE DOWAGER'S RETURN.

For the Empress Dowager to be actually on her way to Peking, and for preparations to be made for an honourable and even exultant reception, is in many respects a most striking event. She fled in the midst of danger; she returns in perfect safety, both situations being due to the forces of the Allies.

There is a certain unreality, as of a dream, in all the strange panorama. The Empress Dowager may count herself a lucky woman. She has not in any respect met her deserts. The wheel of Fortune is ever bringing her to the top. Others pass away, some in a good old age, and others by shameful and unmerited death, but she remains, the possessor of power, the unmatched plotter. She herself could hardly have thought a year or more ago that all things would turn out for her so well. She must be a surprise even to herself.

WHAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN AND WHAT IS.

When the allied armies came marching into Peking, in unchallenged possession of the nation's capital and all the highway to the sea, the natural supposition in the minds of many was that the Chinese, who had seen the folly of the Imperial antagonism to the whole world, would disown such a sovereignty, and of themselves join in harmony the family of enlightened nations. But not so. The Chinese, whether of the people or the mandarin, evinced a high degree of non-revolutionism, as well as their usual fatalistic resignation, until now the eighteen provinces, as much as "beyond the wall," do obedience to the Woman Ruler of the

Empire. Even the most ardent supporters of the rights of the Emperor have remained marvellously quiet, so much so that the Emperor once again seems bereft of any true friend. The mandarins who set at nought the Imperial command, known to have emanated from the Empress Dowager rather than the Emperor, have argued for the innocence and dignity of the Dowager, and have supplied her with troops for her defence, and silver, silks, and every gift for her pleasure.

FOREIGN COMPLACENCY.

The Foreign Powers have been equally surprising, complacent, and respectful. Not a word has appeared in print from any Minister addressed to the Plenipotentiaries which could be construed as a rebuke to the Dowager Empress. Her satellites have been denounced; the Chinese Government has been blamed; and the Emperor has been required by the Protocol to make apology; but the one deserving denunciation, meriting blame, and standing forth as the conspicuous one who ought to apologise, was at first unnoticed, and now is comprehended in the expression, "the Court," or "the two Palaces." It is taken for granted that she is the real Sovereign, the undisputed Regent. Some of the Legations are even speaking of guards of honour to escort her from the station to her palace.

There is one difference between the Chinese and foreign attitude to the Dowager Empress. The Chinese acknowledge that she is supreme, address her and speak of her as such; but the representatives of the Powers, while knowing that she is the reigning Regent, yet speak only of the Emperor, and hold relations or have audiences with him alone. If her Regency is to be allowed, the audiences and banquets should be with her, rather than the powerless Emperor.

A PITIFUL TALE.

It is to be feared that the gentleness of the allied conquerors in their treatment of the Dowager will not be appreciated. Every writer from Peking, Dr. Martin, Dr. Morrison, Dr. Colman, Dr. Reid, and Dr. Arthur Smith—with the exception of Sir Robert Hart and Mgr. Favier—has laid the blame for last year's calamity and outrage at her door. She knew what was being planned; she commanded. The Emperor wept in deepest regret, and disapproved with all his heart. But the solace of time has come; those who suffered nothing have filled the places of the besieged; political motives prevail, and so she returns in safety, in honour, with banners flying, streets covered with yellow dust, the Imperial gates repainted, the palace rooms cleaned and refurnished, and the son of Prince Tuan, the Heir Apparent, passing under the walls of the Legation barracks and before the Legation spectators, into the palace.

The revenue, moreover, needed to meet an international indemnity, is turned into the Dowager's coffers or used for her glorification. Were the Emperor alone entering Peking, there would be no such expenditure; he would forbid it, and his word would be known to be sincere. Now he may head the procession, but the Power will be still with her who for forty years has had the dominating will in the Manchu Court at Peking. She has "pulled the wires" so well that now China and the world bend to her in the hour of peace, though they fought her, plundered her, in the hour of conflict.—N.-C. Daily News.

The possibility of litigation between Mr. John Gunn, of the London Gaiety Company, and Mr. Henry Dallas in regard to the performance by Mr. Dallas of plays of which Mr. Gunn, or Mr. George Edwardes, of the Gaiety Theatre, London, claims the rights of representation in India, is now reported to have come to an end. Mr. Dallas has, it is understood, given an undertaking not to perform any of the plays for which Mr. Gunn has a license during the season, and has, through Mr. Gunn, expressed regret to Mr. George Edwardes for having performed *The Toreador* in Burma already without a license. Some doubt appears to exist as to whether the rights of exclusive dramatic representation have been extended to India, and Mr. Dallas, in playing *The Toreador* without first securing a license, was only doing what many of his predecessors have done without objection being taken.

FOOCHOW.

The *Foochow Echo* of the 30th ult. contains the following items:—

The new Tariff Commission, Sir James Mackay, Mr. Cockburn and others, with Mr. J. W. Jamieson, arrived on H.M. storeship *Hummer* that day.

The Bishop of Victoria left on Tuesday in the *Anping Maru* for Amoy.

The arrival in Foochow, on Wednesday last, of two of the most distinguished representatives of the German Government in China, was made the occasion of some very pleasant receptions at the German Consulate. The German Minister, Dr. Mumm von Schwarzenstein, arrived on H.G.M.S. *Keiserin Augusta* and Admiral Bendemann on H.G.M.S. *Hertha*, Captain Derzowski. As H.E. the German Minister was returning North from his official tour of the Consulates in Southern China, having previously visited the Viceroy of the Yangtze, and being due at Tientsin by the 5th Dec. his visit here was limited to two days. An opportunity was given the community to meet these distinguished visitors, at two entertainments given at the German Consulate, the first being a dramatic entertainment on Thursday afternoon, when the fairy tale of "Snow White" was produced by members of the Consul's family, assisted by two or three others, in the large banquet hall, to the great delight of the assembled company. The participants did themselves great credit and the costumes and setting of the piece were very beautiful. On Friday afternoon a garden fete was held, at which the company of about two hundred persons were charmingly entertained by music furnished by the splendid band of the Admiral, all the members of which are trained musicians. The selections given were from the best composers, and elicited great applause, especially the overture to "William Tell," "Cavalleria Rusticana," and "Lohengrin." The house and grounds of the Consulate were thrown open to the guests, the Consul and Mrs. Siemssen receiving them on the lawn, where refreshments were served during the entire afternoon. Among the guests were many missionaries from the several societies having representatives in Foochow. The German Minister left again on the 29th inst.

At a luncheon given by the Provincial authorities to the foreign Consuls and others on Saturday last the following speech was made. That it may lose none of its point we give it as rendered by the Chinese Interpreter:—"While time is passing us imperceptibly, we, the Provincial Authorities of this province, are always thinking of our good friends, and desiring very much to see them we prepare a little wine to-day with the intention of meeting them. We cordially welcome all you Gentlemen, the Honourable Consuls, their Assistants, the Commissioner, the Bishop (Masot) the Archdeacon (Wolfe) and also Mr. Uyeno from Amoy, and gladly note that all these harmonies indicate the friendly relations existing between East and West. Whereas the civilisation of all the great nations is advancing day after day, and also their friendly terms have been increased in dealing with foreign Countries, and whereas China, after the negotiation of peace, must try her best for the promotion of her politics and for her success, we hope that help will be lent by our friendly Countries; and, by that help, we hope that our commerce and manufactures will be improved and our people and converts will live together harmoniously and all nations unite in one sentiment to maintain peace. We drink the cup to the long life of the Sovereigns and Presidents, and the merit of all you Honourable Consuls, Assistants and the Commissioner, and also the success of the Bishop and the Archdeacon."

The entries for the Foochow Races, which closed on the 16th, are very satisfactory and good fields may be looked forward to for most of the events.

The manufacture of opium and camphor in Formosa has not been satisfactory this year. The authorities estimated the receipts from the monopoly at over nine million yen. It is now reported that the actual proceeds will not exceed one-third of the estimate.

HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED.

An extraordinary general meeting of the Hongkong Hotel Company, Ltd. was held on the 11th inst. in the Secretary's Office at the Hotel for the purpose of deciding as to the utilisation of the ground on the reclamation in front of the Hotel. Mr. E. Osborne presided, and among those present were Messrs. R. C. Wilcox, and W. Parfitt (directors), V. H. Deacon (Company Solicitor), W. E. Rutter, G. L. Tomlin, H. C. Wilcox, C. W. Richards, J. E. Gomez, J. Hastings, W. Davis, T. F. Hough, G. C. C. Master, Lo Cheung Shin, Chan Chau Nam, Ho Kom Tong, and C. Mooney (secretary).

The SECRETARY having read the notice calling the meeting,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen,—We have asked you to meet to-day to discuss and, if you think fit, to approve the Board's proposals for utilising the reclaimed land fronting the Hotel. You will recollect that some eighteen months ago we submitted a scheme, which you rejected, for erecting a very fine new Hotel on the large piece of ground lying between Ice House Street and Pedder's Street. The land which we could have acquired for the purpose at that time has since risen considerably in value and in fact has ceased to be available, so that all hopes of reviving the scheme must be abandoned and it only remains now to do the best we can with our own piece. There are, as far as we know, five courses open to us:—Firstly, to lease the ground as it stands; secondly to sell it; thirdly, to build an annexe to the Hotel; fourthly, to build shops and offices, fifthly, to build shops alone. The first suggestion, viz.:—to lease the ground as it stands, may be dismissed as unworthy of consideration, because the rent would be merely nominal, probably \$100 a month, and to have a lumber yard or some obnoxious trade conducted in front of the Hotel would be distinctly undesirable. As regards the second suggestion, viz.:—to sell the land, we believe that \$18 a foot could be got for it, and, assuming this to be so, the saving of debenture interest would amount to \$13,094 per annum. But we do not recommend parting with the land at present because we are of opinion that its value will increase, and we think that if this \$13,094 can be earned by other means and at the same time we can keep possession of the land, it is better to do so. Next comes the question of building; we have had plans and estimates prepared for a six storied building to be used as an annexe, but the cost, estimated at \$491,350, is so enormous that the return on the value of land and building and furniture would amount to less than 6 per cent. and the additional net revenue earned would be only \$10,586 per annum. The Government will not allow a bridge across the road connecting the two blocks, and so the inconvenience to our patrons in having to cross for meals would militate against its success, whilst to run it as a separate Hotel would necessitate the expense of separate management, and if it succeeded at all under such circumstances it would do so more or less at the expense of our present establishment. Then as regards shops and offices, this scheme is estimated to cost \$420,200 and though paying slightly better than a Hotel would yield only a little over 6 per cent. on the value of land and buildings, with a net additional revenue of \$12,336 per annum. There remains the fifth alternative, viz.:—to build shops alone, and this is a scheme we submit to you as being the most profitable under the circumstances. Our idea is to put up a lightly constructed one-storied building, estimated to cost \$46,575, yielding a return of nearly 5 per cent. on the value of land and buildings and a net additional revenue of \$13,800 per annum. By this means we shall earn slightly more revenue than by any of the other schemes, and at the same time we shall retain our hold on the ground and leave us free to sell or otherwise utilise it later on. It is, I confess, a somewhat disappointing use to make of so fine a site, but the cost of building being at such a prohibitive figure, we cannot, unless rents or hotel prices improve, see what benefit you will derive by sinking so large a sum on the land as \$420,200 or \$491,350 when you can earn the same addition to your revenue by spending one tenth of that amount; and another

consideration which has weighed with us in recommending a one storied building is that the view from the Hotel will now be interfered with and we shall be earning an additional 2 per cent. on the capital of the Company with a minimum of outlay and risk. Before putting the motion I shall be glad to answer any questions.

Mr. TOMLIN: Would these be European or Chinese shops?

The CHAIRMAN—European entirely.

No further questions were asked.

The CHAIRMAN—I beg to propose "That this meeting approves of the proposal for utilising the Company's Praya reclamation land (Section C of the Praya reclamation to Marine Lot No. 7) by the erection of a building thereon."

Mr. RUTTER seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

The meeting then terminated.

SUPREME COURT.

Saturday, 7th December.

IN ADMIRALTY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE (ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE).

H. PIRY & CO. v. OWNERS OF S.S. "KUISANG."

This was a case in which the plaintiffs claimed \$1,100 in respect of damage caused to the junk *Sen Ti Li* by a collision with the s.s. *Kutsang* in the Harbour on 31st August last.

His Lordship, in delivering judgment in the case, said the story for the defendants was that the s.s. *Kutsang*, which had arrived from a voyage early on the morning of the 31st August, came up the channel and down the central fairway, passing the s.s. *Zafiro* on her port side with the intention of taking up her anchorage a little to the eastward of the *Zafiro*. She had just arrived at her anchorage when the master noticed the plaintiff's junk immediately ahead of his steamer, barely 100 yards away, and the junk crew, instead of keeping out of the way, stopped yulung and by a strong tide their junk was sagged on to the port anchor of the *Kutsang*. The story of the plaintiffs was to the effect that the junk, which had taken a cargo of coal on board from a coal steamer near Kellett's Island, was making her way to Kowloon Point across the tide. Suddenly, without any possibility of getting out of the way of the *Kutsang*, the *Kutsang* ran into her, staving in her port side, about 10 feet from the bow, with her port anchor, and was with great difficulty released from her position. The crew of the junk maintained that throughout the critical moments preceding the collision they continued yulung and if anything increased their speed; while almost all the witnesses for the defence maintained that immediately before the collision they stopped yulung, and this made the collision inevitable. The points which occurred to his Lordship were these—(1) Did the junk continue yulung or not? (2) Was the *Kutsang* practically stationary at the time of the collision? Taking into consideration the evidence of what might be called a disinterested witness on board the hospital ship *Meeanee* who was looking out of a large port hole at the stern of that ship and saw the collision as it occurred at 6.15 in the morning, this witness stating that he distinctly saw the crew of the junk cease yulung and jump into the water; and taking into consideration also the evidence of Mr. Mengens, chief boarding officer in the Harbour Master's Department, who stated that when he saw the *Kutsang* she was practically stationary; and, moreover, that the witness from the *Meeanee* stated that he saw the *Kutsang* pass his port-hole abreast and advance more than beyond the centre line of the *Meeanee* and afterwards get on stern way and go back again abreast of the *Meeanee*, showing thus that she had considerable stern-way on her; his Lordship must come to the conclusion that at the time of the collision the *Kutsang* was practically stationary; and, moreover, his assessor, Mr. Basil Taylor, agreed with him upon these points and considered, having regard to the tide running, from 2½ to 3 knots, and having regard to the speed with which the

Kutsang passed the *Zafiro*, that the *Kutsang* by the time she arrived at her anchorage just beyond the *Zafiro* must have been stationary. Therefore his Lordship ordered judgment for the defendant, with costs.

Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C. (instructed by Messrs. Denny and Bowley) represented the plaintiff company, and Mr. E. H. Sharp, barrister-at-law (instructed by Messrs. Deacon and Hastings), the defendants. Mr. Basil R. H. Taylor, Assistant Harbour Master, was assessor.

Monday, 9th December.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE
(ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE).

LUK LAI CHO v. KINGHORN AND MACDONALD.

This was a new trial upon a special jury for \$44,325 for alleged breach of warranty of authority, and the costs incurred in the original action. In that action Luk Lai Cho, 32, Bonham Strand, sued T. H. Kingsley, who was then in Shanghai, for specific performance of an agreement, dated 18th October, 1900, for the sale by the defendant to the plaintiff of a certain piece of land situate at Kowloon and registered in the Land Office as Marine Lot No. 39. The plaintiff lost the suit, and now claims the sum stated from Kinghorn & MacDonald, the agents in the disputed sale. Plaintiff states that the land was actually sold to him by the defendants, and T. H. Kingsley repudiated their action. He was to pay \$325,000 for the property upon the terms that 10 per cent. be paid cash down and the remainder within six months. T. H. Kingsley repudiated the authority of Kinghorn & MacDonald to bind him by the acceptance of the offer and maintained that he had only authorised the defendants to accept an offer of \$325,000, cash down. The damages claimed, \$44,325, represent the difference between the sum of \$325,000 for which the plaintiff had agreed to purchase the property, and the sum of \$369,325 representing 197,500 square feet of land at \$1.87 per square foot, at which rate the plaintiff by contract had agreed to re-sell the property to the Hongkong Land Investment & Agency Co., Ltd. In addition plaintiff sought to recover the costs incurred in his previous suit. The defendants say that they were special agents of Mr. Kingsley at the time they concluded the sale of the land, and mistakenly assumed that the vendor would confirm their action in so doing. The sale took place on Saturday, 20th October. As soon as possible afterwards, namely on the following Monday, the defendants told plaintiff of the mistake and of the refusal of their principal to confirm the sale. They deny the alleged breach of warranty.

Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C., and Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. J. Hastings), appeared for the plaintiff; and Mr. E. H. Sharp, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. J. S. Harston), for the defendants.

The following jury was empanelled—Messrs. V. A. Hawkins, J. G. Smith, J. N. Gosmann, R. Martin, A. G. Stokes, W. M. Watson and J. W. Bowles.

Mr. Sharp, in opening the case, stated that the plaintiff was introduced to Mr. Kinghorn by the local manager of the Taiping Colliery Company, Ho Li Chau, as a likely purchaser of this property, which Mr. Kingsley was desirous to sell. The negotiations eventuated in the arrangement of a sale at \$325,000, 10 per cent. of the money to be paid cash down and the remainder within six months. He wired to Mr. Kingsley at Shanghai asking if the price, which was to be subject to plaintiff's commission, was satisfactory. Mr. Kingsley replied to the effect that he would accept \$325,000 nett cash. This Mr. Kinghorn took to mean that the vendor refused the commission but overlooked the time proposal. The provisional arrangement of the sale was made on the distinct understanding that the proposal as to deferred payment was to be again submitted to Mr. Kingsley for his confirmation.

The first witness was Mr. Kinghorn, who stated that it was by mutual agreement resolved to send a second telegram to Shanghai, asking Mr. Kingsley to state more clearly what were his views with regard to the time proposal.

The plaintiff asked him meantime for an undertaking that he would not entertain any other offers for the property pending the arrival of Mr. Kingsley's reply. He (witness) thought it likely that his principal had accepted the time payment. He found in several cases in which he had tried to purchase some land that brokers were all willing to accept 5 or 10 per cent. down and the remainder within some specified period.

Other evidence was led.

Tuesday, 10th December.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE (ACTING
CHIEF JUSTICE).

LUK LAI CHO v. KINGHORN AND
MACDONALD.

Judgment was given in this case, which was a new trial upon a special jury for \$44,325 for alleged breach of warranty of authority, and the costs incurred in the original action. In that action Luk Lai Cho, 32, Bonham Strand, sued T. H. Kingsley, who was then in Shanghai, for specific performance of an agreement, dated 18th October, 1900, for the sale by the defendant to the plaintiff of a certain piece of land situate at Kowloon and registered in the Land Office as Marine Lot No. 39. The plaintiff lost the suit, and now claimed the sum stated from Kinghorn & MacDonald, the agents in the disputed sale. Plaintiff stated that the land was actually sold to him by the defendants, and T. H. Kingsley repudiated their action. He was to pay \$325,000 for the property, upon the terms that 10 per cent. be paid cash down and the remainder within six months. T. H. Kingsley repudiated the authority of Kinghorn & MacDonald to bind him by the acceptance of the offer and maintained that he had only authorised the defendants to accept an offer of \$325,000, cash down. The damages claimed, \$44,325, represent the difference between the sum of \$325,000 for which the plaintiff had agreed to purchase the property, and the sum of \$369,325 representing 197,500 square feet of land at \$1.87 per square foot, at which rate the plaintiff by contract had agreed to re-sell the property to the Hongkong Land Investment & Agency Co., Ltd. In addition plaintiff sought to recover the costs incurred in his previous suit. The defendants said that they were special agents of Mr. Kingsley at the time they concluded the sale of the land, and mistakenly assumed that the vendor would confirm their action in so doing. The sale took place on Saturday, 20th October. As soon as possible afterwards, namely on the following Monday, the defendants told plaintiff of the mistake and of the refusal of their principal to confirm the sale. They deny the alleged breach of warranty.

Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C., and Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. J. Hastings), appeared for the plaintiff; and Mr. E. H. Sharp, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. J. S. Harston), for the defendants.

Mr. Slade having summed up the plaintiff's case.

Mr. Sharp replied on behalf of the defendant.

His Lordship summed up and put the following question to the jury—"Did the parties consider that the letter dated 20th October, including the postscript, was a binding contract?"

By a majority of 5 to 2 the jury gave the finding, "No."

Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C., then addressed the Court as to costs.

Mr. Sharp asked for the costs of the old trial.

Judgment was given for the defendants. No order was delivered as to the costs in either the old or the new trial.

Friday, 13th December.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE (ACTING
CHIEF JUSTICE).

MAK KWAN SHEK v. FOO KAT CHEUNG.

In this case plaintiff claimed \$1,236, money deposited with defendant, viz., \$1,150 and

balance of money, \$86, received for use of the plaintiff.

Mr. W. M. Slade, barrister, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. E. H. Sharp, barrister, for the defendant.

Mr. Slade in opening the case said that plaintiff had been in the employment of the defendant firm down to 26th June, 1900, at which date he was discharged. Prior to that on 21st March, 1900, he deposited with the defendant firm a sum of \$1,150 and there was also due to him a sum of \$86 in respect of two cases of biscuits supplied to them. That money was deposited with the manager, Man Kai, in whose charge the business of the firm rested. Man Kai was now dead. He received this money as he had received money on previous occasions and gave a receipt for it. The defendant firm denied that the chop used was the chop employed by the firm for depositing or receiving money, and averred that the money was received personally by Man Kai and not on behalf of the firm. The plaintiff would prove that the money was given to the firm and not to Man Kai personally. The defendant firm stated that the sum deposited was only \$300, yet in a previous affidavit they declared that no money was deposited at all. They further stated that if any sum had been deposited with the firm such sum would have appeared in their books as having been deposited by the plaintiff. The sum of \$300, which they said was the only sum deposited had been, they averred, repaid, yet in their affidavit which he proposed to put in there was no document disclosed in the form of a receipt from the plaintiff for the sum of \$300 referred to, yet if it had been repaid they necessarily would have taken a receipt from him.

Evidence was then led.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

THE LATE MR. FRANCIS, K.C.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hove, Brighton, 8th November.

SIR,—The last mail brought me the sad news of the sudden death of Mr. J. J. Francis. I have read with melancholy interest the tributes which have been paid to his memory in the Courts of Hongkong. In them I fully concur, and although I feel that those who have so ably spoken on this sad occasion have left little if anything to be further said, yet, as Mr. Francis was about the first person to speak to me at the Court on my arrival in 1882, and as I had daily intercourse with him till I left 1895, I would wish through your columns to add the expression of esteem, respect, and regret to the memory of one who through all those years filled such a prominent place in our Court and who has been suddenly cut off at all when he could have looked forward to many years of work and usefulness. Like all of us, Mr. Francis had his faults, but one quality he possessed, for which he ought to be remembered and his example followed, was his faithfulness and devotion to his clients. He was thoroughly conscientious in the conduct of his cases and once he took up a case he bestowed on it all his energy and talent. His zeal for his client may sometimes have betrayed him into hasty or indiscreet action, especially if he thought there was on the part of witnesses any false swearing, but this is a fault which we could soon forget when we thought of his independent conduct of a case. He was also a most useful citizen; as Chairman of the Plague Recognition Committee, I recall, he had put aside his professional duties and sacrificed his large practice for some months to help the Colony in her hour of trial. He did a great and good work, and I deeply regretted that these deserving services had not met at the hands of Government with their reward—but I suppose some official jealousy prevented him receiving that mark of Her Majesty's favour which he surely deserved—and which he would have greatly appreciated.—Yours, &c.,

EDW. J. ACKROYD.

December 16, 1911.]

CHINA OVERLAND TRADE REPORT.

THE CATHEDRAL CHAPLAINCY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong 12th December.

SIR.—Some days ago you published from *Church Notes* the explanation of the Rev. R. F. Cobbold, M.A., as to his retirement from the senior chaplaincy of St John's Cathedral, and prefaced it by stating that no doubt the Church Body would call a meeting of seatholders and subscribers and decide as to the appointment of a new chaplain.

Since then a considerable number of people have been waiting for the Church Body to convene that meeting for the purpose mentioned. It will surprise many to learn that, if what I hear is correct, the Church Body have actually appointed a new Senior Chaplain locally, without any reference to the feelings of the seatholders and subscribers. Further, they made the appointment—a conditional one, I believe—some weeks before the Senior Chaplain's resignation was received and accepted.

Apparently, the Church Body have taken up the position that, although the two chaplaincies are maintained solely by the seatholders, subscribers, and others of the congregation, it was unnecessary to consult them. This is one point which those seatholders and subscribers who from hearsay have learnt of the new appointment strongly resent, and they desire an explanation, which can best be given in a special meeting convened for the purpose.

Another aspect of the matter is of importance, and of public importance, considering the position of the Senior Chaplain to the majority of the English community here. That is, that the Church Body, now having the opportunity, should have endeavoured to have secured from England a suitable successor to the Senior Chaplain, but, again, apparently no efforts were made, or if they were made, there are many who would be pleased to learn of such. There is no necessity to speak on the qualifications of a Senior Chaplain; those who have considered it their duty to attend the Cathedral the last twelve months are painfully aware of these. The Bishop of Victoria in preaching in the Cathedral some time ago upbraided the young men and women of the Colony for neglecting their religious duties, and thought the evil of this neglect was greater than some other evils. It never perhaps occurred to him that a reason existed, and that his recent action, in conjunction with the Church Body, is likely to perpetuate that "evil" to an even greater degree, which may also mean a serious diminution in the revenue of the church.

Apologising for trespassing on your space on a subject on which much feeling exists,

Yours, etc.,

A SEATHOLDER.

EUROPEANS IN FORMOSA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Kobe, November.

SIR.—I shall be much obliged if you will permit me to remonstrate in your valuable columns with the tenor of Mr. Campbell's long article, which appeared in your paper of the 16th September. Had he kept himself entirely to writing about the greater success, if any, which his mission has experienced since the Japanese acquisition of Formosa, no one would have thought of questioning him, though it would have been more accurate had he said that he was writing from his own personal experience, rather than from the experience of the entire mission as a whole. Let even Mr. Campbell himself relate his experience recently in mid-Formosa when he was arrested and actually ill-treated as a Russian spy and detained! Since the episode of the Russian spy, when, I believe in compliance with H. B. M. Consul's request, full apologies were tendered to Mr. Campbell, he has been no doubt rather better treated, and has also found converts rather more willing to come forward, because of his supposed enhanced prestige. Every one living in China knows how the Chinese regard the matter of prestige. He must therefore feel somewhat gratified, and thought he would acknowledge his gratitude (?) through the Press at the expense of his mercantile countrymen, and thus please the officials.

Although Mr. Campbell may have been

thirty years on and off in Formosa, he cannot possibly be an authority on business matters, as he has very little to do with the foreign merchants in Anping, and he would have done better had he left the merchants alone. Does he think when in twelve months he paid three visits to them, that they are going to recount all their troubles to a man who, to say the least, can but poorly understand the situation? However, for his benefit I will show the exact position of the foreign merchants now. In his missionary work he has fields, which yield better fruit and others which are not as good. Let us suppose that there are three good fields only and a number of more or less indifferent ones. Let the Japanese Government put various restrictions, obstructive regulations in his way until he finds he must either run enormous risks or abandon the fields, and yet must continue fighting for capital invested (say in the shape of churches, schools, &c.), and then let the Government suddenly start a Government mission of a different religion, and make two of the three best fields into monopolies where the converts are compelled to adopt the Government religion and all the churches and schools built with the mission money are seized without any recompense. Then let the Government put a very heavy taxation on mission work, place obstructive regulations and restrictions before the E. P. missions, and with the money obtained from the E. P. M. heavily subsidise a rival mission whose religion is opposed to that taught by the E. P. M. Then let the members of the mission be paid by the numbers of converts they make, and not by funds from England, and feel that with such heavy handicaps, they are losing their converts and in consequence their chance of earning a mere living. In addition to that, let us suppose that under the Chinese regime the members of the mission had put all their private savings into local property which they cannot sell even if they wish to leave the country and start afresh.

If Mr. Campbell can imagine all the above as having befallen his mission which he assisted to build up long before the Japanese thought of Formosa, and can still talk of fair competition and "surely evolutions of this kind are but the fortunes of war," then I will call him a true Christian. He talks of the welcome but high-tariffed little *Thales* and thereby shows his ignorance of the matter. The *Thales* is 820 tons, British registered, and runs 11 knots when clean and at least 9 knots when dirty; she used to run between Anping and Hongkong via coast ports three times a month. The original rates of freight for exports were 20 sen per package up to 132 catties in weight to Amoy, subsequently increased by 25 per cent. on account of dear coal, and 25 cents to Swatow and Hongkong, and, I believe, though I am not quite certain, 86.50 per ton for imports, which had to be landed by the agents' cargo-boats at a rate of 15 sen per package of average size, and much less for small packages. Now the Osaka chosen Kaisha receives a subsidy of \$60,000 per annum, made out of taxation of which the foreigners contribute their share, for maintaining a fortnightly service with the *Maiduru Maru* (old German steamer *Continental*), of 650 tons register (9 knots when clean and 6 knots when dirty), saloon and cabins (two) badly kept and of the size usually fitted for small steam launches. Her tariff for exports is 30 cents per picul (making 39.6 cents per package) to Amoy, and 40 cents per picul (or 52.8 cents per package) to Hongkong and Swatow. Imports are rated at \$8.75 per ton and also have to be landed by the owners at a rate of 25 to 30 cents per package of average size, and smaller packages are charged for at a correspondingly dear figure.

As tax-payers, one would like to ask what benefits the merchants get out of the charge for which they in common with others are taxed to find the \$60,000 subsidy? Can one not fairly presume that the subsidy is given simply with a view to driving out the British boat? The same company runs two steamers to the North and one between Hongkong and Focchow, each of which also receives 60,000 yen per annum. In regard to the millions spent by Dr. Goto in roadmaking, surveying, trolley and railway lines, &c., the road between Anping and Tainan is just as bad as it was before the advent of the Japanese. There are however a couple of good roads made through Tainan by pulling down houses, but this was

at the expense of the house-owners mainly. The Government paid but a small amount as compensation and the owners have to pull their own houses down and sell the bricks as best they can. As a rule the owners lose quite 50 per cent. of the market value of their houses thus pulled down. Surveying has certainly been done all over the country and the Japanese are very good at this kind of work, but, though the military may have already got results from this expenditure, it has not as yet assumed a commercial value. Later on, however, some good charts may be obtainable. Trolleys were laid down by the military when they first fought overland against the Chinese, but the line is badly kept as a whole and not much used for commercial purposes, as the military authorities still keep it in hand. There is a railway of 25 miles between Tainan and Takow which is being extended to Kahgee, 50 miles northward. In course of time it will meet with the northern line and unite in one trunk line between Keelung and Takow. Though not very much patronised at present, because old-fashioned trade-routes are still cheaper, no doubt in course of time commerce will benefit. By that time probably there will be very few, if any at all, foreign merchants left, so that Mr. Campbell and the Japanese merchants will have it all to themselves. The Post and Telegraph offices in South Formosa are a disgrace to the Government. There is hardly a telegram received without some mutilations, even between such short distances as Anping and Takow, and as to letters one is usually not surprised when they take three months to reach Takow from Anping, and only too thankful to get any at all. Telephone-stations are paid for by the contributing merchants, who want to have one installed, for which besides initial expenses—such as cost of posts and wires, &c.—the merchants have each to pay an annual subscription of 100 yen. This is therefore not exactly an outcome of Dr. Goto's administration. There are a few hospitals round about Tainan for the maintenance of which the already heavily taxed merchants have to pay a contribution, though used mainly by the Japanese inhabitants, as the Chinese, if they go to an hospital at all, generally prefer the mission one and Dr. Anderson or Dr. Maxwell. As to light-houses, I have not heard of any new ones erected beyond those existing before the cession of the island to Japan; and the Takow light is much more poorly kept than when under Chinese regime; sometimes you can see hardly any light there at all.

In regard to the regular service of steamers round the island and to the Pescadores, all are subsidised at the rate of 60,000 yen per annum each, and probably do not carry goods which yield half that amount of profits to the merchants of the island. This service is useful to the missions, as whereas hitherto they had to visit their east coast stations either by a tedious chair-journey overland or in a dirty Chinese cargo-boat now they have steamers of 1,500 tons gross thrice a month, generally in ballast. The merchants who contribute in taxation towards the upkeep of this line must feel thankful to have been able in a small way to assist in placing a little comfort at the disposal of Mr. Campbell when he feels inclined to visit his stations.

As regards law, justice, and administration under the present regime, as compared with the Chinese regime, commercially the position is disastrous, as the Chinese, hitherto of good integrity, are learning to take advantage of the Japanese law, and practise the same games as Japanese merchants in Japan; whereas in Chinese days one could trust a Chinaman to keep his contract, even if not in writing. Now it is difficult to make him do so, if it does not suit him, even though there be a written contract. However, I have no desire to attack the Government on that score. Mistakes must be made, and Japan is but a young colonising power. No doubt Dr. Goto and those under him think that it will eventually benefit the Japanese merchants when he can induce them to come by heavy subsidies if he drives the comparatively few foreign merchants out of the country. It is but a matter of opinion as to what policy benefits the country as a whole the most, and he

and those under him are doing what they consider is their duty to their Government, but nevertheless the victims of the policy have a right to growl, and their grievances, from their points of view, are, to say the least, real. Therefore let Mr. Campbell keep himself to such subjects as his missions, of which he has an intimate knowledge, and leave matters of which he knows but little alone. I must apologise for taking up so much of your valuable space.—Yours, etc.,

JUSTICE.

PRIVATE CHAIR AND RICKSHA COOLIES.

Hongkong, 12th December.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—Too many have been the complaints against the way that the private chair and ricksha-coolies are treating their masters by quitting their service without giving notice. As for some of them, as soon as they get their wages, off they go and put their masters in a very unpleasant situation. Cannot this obnoxious practice be put a stop to? Of course, it can easily be done if the Government would enforce a regulation requiring all domestic servants to be registered and guaranteed. The suggestions made by the chair and ricksha committee should be carried out at once. Things are getting worse and worse every day in Hongkong, and I hope that the proper authorities will soon shake off their lethargy.—Yours, etc.,

ONAIRDA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong 13th December.

SIR,—I see a letter from "Onairda" in your issue of this date, which, in conjunction with other recent letters to the Press on the subject of private chair and ricksha coolies, constrains me to offer a suggestion. It seems to me that the treatment of coolies by their masters has a lot to do with the behaviour of the coolies. I am very far from being pro-Chinese, but believe in treating coolies as human beings, with the result that, during the last two years which I have spent at the Peak, I have not only had no trouble with my four chair coolies, but lately, on removing from one house to another, where I have no room for more than two coolies, I told my boy to dismiss two of them, but they decline to go, preferring to crowd the four of themselves into quarters only large enough for two.

The wages I pay are the same as I paid two years ago, and are not above the market price. In addition to carrying me, they have to do odd jobs in the house, and two of them have to be at my office every day to run errands, &c. Now, if this can be so in one case, why not in all? If people were to try and consider a coolie as, at least, an approximation to a human being, I think we should hear less about the private coolie question.—Yours, etc.,

T.

A SMOKE NUISANCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 12th December.

SIR,—About two years ago two manufacturing firms established business at the foot of St. Francis Street and the several ill-constructed funnels erected in their premises gave the locality an unassuming aspect of a miniature manufacturing town. The depressing air, heavily laden with dust, soot, and smoke all the day long in this neighbourhood, makes living most unbearable, and repeated complaints have been made individually from time to time to the managing owners of these companies to no purpose. Being powerless to check this flagrant abuse unless pressure be brought to bear, the owners, all the foreign and Chinese residents of Holy Infant Lane, St. Francis Street, Queen's Road East, etc., petitioned to the Government in the first week of July last year to be kind enough to adopt measures for the suppression of the smoke nuisance. After waiting for a few months, the petitioners thought that the Government had passed them over unnoticed, and on 29th September, 1900, another petition was presented to the Sanitary Board authorities, imploring the Board to use their good influence to assist them. At the

meeting of the Sanitary Board held on 11th October, 1900, a report of which was published together with the petition in full in the issue of the *Daily Press* a day later, the Medical Officer of Health said in reference to it that "the Government have written home for full particulars as to the means of enforcing sub-section 7 of section 91 of the Imperial Public Health Act of 1875, which deals with smoke nuisance."

Since Dr. Clark's remark was made, nothing was done in the matter till the beginning of this year, when the Attorney-General introduced in Council a bill for the suppression of smoke nuisance. The bill was accordingly passed through its several stages, but the smoke nuisance is still going on unabated and besides these firms have erected two more new funnels in their premises; their last transgression was looked upon by the petitioners as a glaring invasion of their lawful rights as taxpayers and peaceful citizens wonder whether the action of the companies was justified under the circumstances. As nothing was done in the matter I addressed the following letter dated 12th June, 1901, to Dr. F. W. Clark M.B., D.P.H., etc., Medical Officer of Health:—

"Dear Sir,

"I am requested, as the author of the petition against smoke nuisance which was presented to you in last September from the owners and foreign residents of St. Francis Street, Holy Infant Lane, Queen's Road East, etc., to approach you again on the subject. In the meeting of the Sanitary Board as reported in the *Daily Press* of 12th October, 1900, you mentioned in reference to our petition that 'the Government have written home for full particulars as to the means of enforcing sub-section 7 of section 91 of the Imperial Public Health Act of 1875, which deals with smoke nuisance.' Since your remark has been made, the Government have passed a bill for suppression of smoke nuisance in the Legislative Council some 3 months ago, but I regret to state that it has not been enforced in this locality, as the nuisance is still going on unabated. I beg respectfully to reiterate the gravity of the evil which is still prevailing and consider this community has a just grievance to lay before you; for the last 18 months they have been subjected to all sorts of inconvenience arising not only from dust, soot and smoke all the day long, but also now and then from the arsenic fumes caused by copper smelting by the one firm and the poisonous fumes caused by boiling mysterious chemicals by the other. As the health of this community is under your kind protection I have full confidence that you will make strong representations to those who are responsible for erecting ill-constructed funnels, with a view of having them removed. By complying to our humble request you will have placed this community under a deep obligation of owing you a debt of gratitude for which they shall always feel indebted.

Soliciting the favour of your reply.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

M. FERNANDEZ.

12, St. Francis Street."

On the same day the following letter was received—

Sanitary Board Office—No 105.

"SIR,—In reply to your letter of even date addressed to the Medical Officer of Health, please furnish the addresses of the firms complained of,

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(signed) G. A. WOODCOCK.

Acting Secretary.

Mr. M. FERNANDEZ.

In reply to that I again wrote on 13th June 1901, as follows:—

"DEAR SIR,

"In reply to your favour of yesterday's date I beg to inform you that the names and addresses of firms complained of, are Kee Heong Chan, sweetmeat manufacturers and exporters, No. 65, and the Tin Hing Co engineers and shipbuilders, No. 57, Queen's Road East. These firms are both situated beside each other at the foot of St. Francis Street. I shall feel much obliged if you would kindly convey to the Medical Officer of Health the expression of our sincere thanks for protecting the health of

this community from the wanton aggression of the above named firm."

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully.

M. FERNANDEZ.

To G. A. WOODCOCK, Esq.,

Secretary,

Sanitary Board.

After keeping this community in throes of suspense for some time, the petitioners, not daunted with their several failures, again reminded Dr. Clark in a letter dated 28th October 1901, as follows:—

"Dear Sir,

"Adverting to our petition which was presented to you in September, 1900, and subsequently appeared in the *Daily Press* of 12th October of same year, we beg to inform you that the complaints referred to are still going on unabated. When the Legislative Council passed the smoke-abatement Ordinance at the beginning of the present year, we thought that the Government would take action in suppressing this nuisance, but we found to our regret that nothing was done in the matter. We would call your kind attention that one of our petitioners addressed you on the subject in 12th June, 1901, pointing out the gravity of the existing evil prevailing in this locality, and your secretary in acknowledging receipt of this letter on the same day, requested the names of the firms complained of, which were furnished on the very next day, and since then we have not heard any more relating to it. We take leave to reiterate again the great inconvenience which we have been subjected to for the last 22 months, and hope you will be good enough to protect us by enforcing the Ordinance relating to smoke nuisance against the two firms.

We are, Dear Sir,

Your obedient servants,

(Here follows a list of names).

I trust that His Excellency the Governor will be kind enough to investigate into the case not only of smoke nuisance but also of incessant noises caused by the many engineering firms establishing business in the heart of the population along Queen's Road East, and by doing so, I only endorse the opinion of Capt. Hon. F. H. May, I think, delivered in a speech by that gentleman at a recent meeting of the Sanitary Board.

If you could find space for inserting this letter I shall feel extremely obliged to you on behalf of those who have suffered for the last two years, as "men in distress are sacred objects."

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

M. FERNANDEZ.

c/o Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Ltd.

VICTORIA REGATTA.

FIRST DAY'S PROGRAMME.

The forty-fourth annual Regatta promoted by the Victoria Recreation Club was opened on the 11th inst. at Kowloon and proved to be eminently successful. As usual the Club had made elaborate arrangements for the reception of spectators. The club-house and grand stand were beautifully decorated with flowers and plants, and numerous launches and other craft had been secured for the accommodation of the officials and the demarcation of the course. H.E. the Governor, Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., filled the presidential duties and the other officials were as follows:—Stewards:—Vice-Admiral Sir Cyprian Bridge, K.C.B., Major-General Sir W. Gascoigne, K.C.M.G., Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., Hon. A. W. Brewin, Col. L. F. Brown, R.E., Mr. E. F. Gros, Dr. O. Gumprecht, Consul for Germany; Major A. B. Hamilton, D.A.A.G.A., Mr. F. A. Hazeland, Sir T. Jackson, Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, C.M.G., J. J. Leiria, Vice-Consul for Brazil; Mr. H. N. Mody, Commodore F. Powell, R.N., A. G. Romano, Consul-General for Portugal; Hon. Commander R. Murray Rumsey, R.N., Messrs. T. Sercombe Smith, N. A. Siebs, W. Poate, W. A. Rublee, U.S. Consul-General; Hon. T. H. Whitehead, Dr. G. H. B. Wright, D.D., and Mr. M. A. A. Souza, Committee:—Hon. H. E. Pollock, Chairman; Messrs. A. A. Alves, W. Armstrong, W. S. Bailey, A. Denison, F. M. Hazeland, H. W. B. Kennett, M. M. McIver, and Thos. H. Reid,

Judges of the Rowing Race:—Mr. Basil H. Taylor, R.N., Captain W. C. Hastings, R.N., and Mr. E. D. Sanders. Umpires and Starters:—Starters:—Starter (Rowing) Mr. W. H. Potts. Umpires (Rowing) Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, C.M.G., and Mr. heart W. Armstrong. Yachts and Open Sailing Boats, Mr. C. H. Gale. Time-keeper:—Mr. Geo. P. Lammert. The whole arrangements were admirably carried out by Mr. H. White, acting hon. secretary, and Mr. W. H. Potts, hon. treasurer, assisted by the various committees of the Club. As regards the weather conditions under which the Regatta was held, they were all that could be desired. At 1 o'clock in the afternoon when the first race was timed to begin it was pleasantly warm without much sun, and thus it continued until the conclusion of the day's programme. There was a little wind, too, so that the rowing competitions could hardly have taken place under more auspicious circumstances, yet quite enough to make the sailing matches of the required interest. Thanks to the vigilance of the Water Police under Inspector Riley there was never anything approaching an obstruction of the course. After the race for the Ladies' Prizes, these were presented to the winning crew—that of the *Rose*—by Miss Hutchings. The crew were introduced by Mr. H. White, hon. secretary of the Club. Miss Hutchings gracefully presented the trophies, which took the form of some handsome pieces of silver plate, congratulated the crew upon their victory and wished them continued success. Mr. E. Herbst, stroke, thanked Miss Hutchings and presented her with a beautiful bouquet of flowers. The ceremony was brought to a close by three cheers being given for the lady donors. Appended are the results of the races:—

FIRST RACE.

LIGHT GIGS.—Open to European non-commissioned Officers and men of any regiment or corps of the garrison or to European crews of any of H.M. Vessels or to European members of the Police Force. Entrance, \$1. Distance, One Mile. Boats to be approved of by the Committee. Time allowance, 8 seconds per oar. Four boats must start for 2 prizes.

- 1, Police Whaler, 5 oars.
- 2, 25th Co. R.A., E.D.
- 3, Victoria, R.E., 7 oars.

This was a close race throughout and was won without much to spare. Time 8 mins. 18 secs.

SECOND RACE.

CHAIRMAN'S CHALLENGE CUP.—For four oars. Cup to be held by the winning crew for one year, but to remain the property of the Club. Distance, one-mile-and-a-quarter. Entrance, \$10. To be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club.

- 1, *Rose*.

Station No. 4.—White, crimson, blue sash.

	st.	lbs.
Bow... F. D. Bain	9	4
2... F. J. Engelken	12	7
3... C. Sherrington	13	1
Stroke... A. E. Alves	11	6
Cox... C. M. S. Alves	10	0

- 2, *Kornblumer*.

Station No. 5.—Dark blue & light blue.

	st.	lbs.
Bow... A. Humphreys	10	10
2... J. H. R. Hance	10	8
3... G. Humphreys	12	2
Stroke... E. Herbst	10	0
Cox... S. A. Seth	10	0

- 3, *Thistle*.

Station No. 3.—White, red sash.

	st.	lbs.
Bow... F. M. Roza Pereira	10	4
2... R. Lapsley	11	4
3... A. J. Mackie	11	5
Stroke... C. E. A. Hance	11	6
Cox... H. M. Bain	10	0

The crew of the *Rose* drew out well from the others shortly after the start and retained their advantage till the end, winning by 8 lengths from *Kornblumer*, which was only 4 of a length in front of the *Thistle* when the line was crossed. Time, 8 mins., 35 1/5 secs.

THIRD RACE.

MEN-OF-WARS CUTTERS.—The boats to be approved and handicapped if necessary by the Committee. Distance, one mile. Time allowed for oars, 8 seconds per oar. Four boats must start for 2 prizes. Entrance, \$1. First prize, \$15.

- 1, *Glory* (No. 1), 14 oars.
- 2, *Glory* (No. 2), 12 oars.
- 3, *Orlando*, 12 oars.

No. 1 *Glory* conceded 14 secs. to No. 2 *Glory* and won by a short lead. Time, 8 mins. 53 1/5 secs.

FOURTH RACE.

LADIES PRIZE.—Presented by the ladies of Hongkong. For four oars. Distance, one mile. Entrance, \$10. To be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club.

- 1, *Rose*.

Station No. 3.—Dark blue and light blue.

	st.	lbs.
Bow... A. Humphreys	10	10
2... J. H. R. Hance	10	8
3... C. E. A. Hance	11	6
Stroke... E. Herbst	10	0
Cox... S. A. Seth	10	0

- 2, *Shamrock*.

Station No. 1.—White and blue.

	st.	lbs.
Bow... J. Millar	10	10
2... A. Louriero	10	0
3... A. E. Alves	11	6
Stroke... A. A. Alves	11	5
Cox... F. W. White	10	0

- 3, *Thistle*.

Station No. 2.—Black, pink sash.

	st.	lbs.
Bow... E. W. Carpenter	11	12
2... W. A. Stopani	12	4
3... C. Sherrington	13	1
Stroke... R. Lapsley	11	4
Cox... R. Henderson	10	0

This was a splendid race, as the time, 7 mins., would indicate. With the outside position the *Rose* looked as if she were to be beaten early in the race, owing to her cox steering in an almost curving course towards the flagship, but this only proved his knowingsness, for his crew won with something comfortable to spare. The crew worked very well together and were in the pink of condition apparently.

FIFTH RACE.

HARBOUR POLICE.—Open to the members of the Harbour Police. To be rowed in the service boats. Distance, one mile. Entrance, 50 cents. First prize, \$10. Second prize, \$4. Three boats to start for two prizes.

- 1, No. 4 Water Police.
- 2, No. 3 Water Police.

A hard and well contested race ended in favour of No. 4 boat by a length. Time, 9 mins. 48 1/2 secs.

SIXTH RACE.

TUB SCULLING.—(Tub Sculling Boats). Distance, half mile. Entrance, \$1. To be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club.

- 1, F. R. Tata, Station No. 1, No. 6 Tub.
- 2, H. S. Holmes, Station No. 4, No. 4 Tub.
- 3, H. Rapp, Station No. 6, No. 2 Tub.

Tata won on merit with a long sweeping stroke, but Holmes would no doubt have given him some trouble only that he steered badly. Also unfortunate in this respect was A. J. Mackie, who otherwise rowed well although suffering from a weak left. Time, 5 mins. 31 secs.

SEVENTH RACE.

PARSEE CUP.—Presented by the Parsee community of Hongkong. For four oars. Distance, one mile. Entrance, \$10. To be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club.

- 1, *Shamrock*.

Station No. 3.—White, crimson, blue sash.

	st.	lbs.
Bow... F. D. Bain	9	4
2... F. M. Roza Pereira	10	4
3... A. Humphreys	10	10
Stroke... A. E. Alves	11	6
Cox... C. M. S. Alves	10	0

- 2, *Leek*.

Station No. 2.—White and blue

	st.	lbs.
Bow... L. A. Rose	9	9
2... G. H. Ruby	9	0
3... A. Louriero	11	0
Stroke... A. A. Alves	11	5
Cox... H. W. Sayer	10	0

- 3, *Rose*.

Station No. 4.—White and red.

	st.	lb.
Bow... N. H. Alves	9	4
2... A. E. Asger	9	7
3... J. Millar	10	10
Stroke... J. H. R. Hance	10	8
Cox... F. W. White	10	0

The crew of the *Rose* pulled very well at the beginning but got too far out of the course and consequently into the tide. It was a good race between the first and second boats, but the men of the *Shamrock* forged ahead as the line was neared, and won by a couple of lengths. The *Thistle*, stroke C. E. A. Hance, gave up towards the finish. Time, 7 min. 24 1/2 secs.

EIGHTH RACE.

SNAKE BOATS.—Open to Chinese snake boats. Distance about a mile. 1st prize, \$10; 2nd prize, \$5. Eight boats to start for 2 prizes.

- 1, Yow Ki.
- 2, Sin Yik.

There were 7 entries. The race was finely contested and was won by 1 1/2 lengths of a length separating second and third. Time, 7 mins. 38 secs.

NINTH RACE.

LUSITANO CUP.—Presented by the members of the Club Lusitano. For four oars. Distance, one mile. Entrance, \$10. To be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club.

- 1, *Shamrock*.

	st.	lbs.
Bow... F. D. Bain	9	4
2... G. H. Ruby	9	9
3... A. Humphreys	10	10
Stroke... A. A. Alves	11	5
Cox... M. E. Asgar	10	0

- 2, *Rose*.

Station No. 2.—White, crimson, blue sash.

	st.	lbs.
Bow... L. A. Rose	9	0
2... F. J. Engelken	12	7
3... C. Sherrington	13	1
Stroke... A. E. Alves	11	6
Cox... F. W. White	10	0

There were five entries but only the two boats mentioned above rowed to a finish. Between them the event was pluckily contested. The *Shamrock* holding the outside station curved surprisingly far out of the course but was brought cleverly home by her crew with about three lengths to spare. The race was finished in semi-darkness. Times 7 mins. 39 secs.

SAILING RACES.

FOR YACHTS AND PARTIALLY-DECKED BOATS (in two classes), Y.R.A. time allowance; prize, a cup for each class. Entrance, \$4. Course, 9 miles. "A" Class, no time allowance. "B" Class, 1 handicap.

"A" Class—1, Mr. A. Davidson's *Erica*, 4 h. 27 m. 38 s.; 2, Lieut-Colonel Koe's *Bonito*, 4 h. 57 m. 0 s.

"B" Class—1, Mr. E. M. Hazeland's *Reta* (allows 2 mins.), 4 h. 20 m. 16 s.; 2, Mr. W. H. Wickham's *La Cigale*, 4 h. 21 m. 21 s.

SECOND DAY'S PROGRAMME.

The Victoria Regatta was concluded on the 12th inst. in splendid weather. There was a large attendance of spectators, many of whom followed the progress of the different racing teams in launches. The races were begun punctually at 1 o'clock. The principal event of the day was the International Challenge Cup competition, for which English, Scotch, and Portuguese crews competed. The Portuguese were pretty generally fancied as winners, although Loureiro was just recovering from an attack of fever. They held the outside station, which had proved to be the best in the the preceding day's racing, and their supporters' expectations ran high. But these were not destined to be fulfilled, for the English crew pulled splendidly together and won handsomely by about 6 lengths. The other events were well contested and in some cases exciting finishes took place. In the course of the day the band of the 22nd Bombay Infantry played musical selections.

At the conclusion of the racing the ceremony of presenting the prizes was gracefully performed by Mrs. Powell. Afterwards Mrs. Powell was presented with a beautiful bouquet of flowers by Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart on behalf of the Club, and the proceedings were brought to a close with three cheers for Mrs. Powell and three cheers for the Colonial Secretary, who has been in no small degree responsible for the success of this year's Regatta. H.E. the Governor was present during the afternoon's racing and also at the distribution of the prizes.

Appended are the results:—

FIRST RACE.

LIGHT GIGS.—Open to European non-commissioned Officers and men of any regiment or

corps of the garrison or to European crews of any of H.M. vessels or the European members of the Police Force. Entrance, \$1. Distance, one mile. Boats to the approved of by the Committee. Time allowance, 8 seconds per oar. Four boats must start for 2 prizes. Winning crew of 1st race first day, to be handicapped by the Committee. 1st prize, \$15; 2nd prize \$10.

- 1, 25th Co. R.A., E.D., 6 oars.
- 2, Police Whaler, 5 oars.
- 3, 2nd Co., R.A., 5 oars.

The Royal Artillery over and above their time allowance showed themselves the superior oarsmen and finished with about 100 yards to spare. Time, 7mins. 21½sec. The second boat's time was 8mins. 5½secs.

SECOND RACE.

INTERNATIONAL CHALLENGE Cup.—For four-oars. Cup presented by the late J. S. Lapraik, Esq., to be held by the winning crew for one year; but to remain the property of the Club. Distance, one-mile-and-a-quarter. Entrance, \$10. To be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club.

- 1, ... Rose (English).

Station No. 1.—St. George's Cross.

	st.	lbs.
Bow... J. D. Danby	10	10
2... E. W. Carpenter	11	12
3... C. McI. Messer	12	8
Stroke... C. E. A. Hance	11	6
Cox... J. H. R. Hance	10	0

	st.	lbs.
2, ... Shamrock (Portuguese)		
Bow... F. M. Roza Pereira	10	4
2... A. Loureiro	11	0
3... A. E. Alves	11	6
Stroke... A. A. Alves	11	5
Cox... F. W. White	10	0

	st.	lbs.
3, ... Thistle (Scotch)		
Bow... F. D. Bain	12	11
2... W. A. Stopani	12	4
3... C. Sherrington	13	1
Stroke... J. Millar	10	10
Cox... R. Henderson	10	0

This was a splendid race. It was considered that the Portuguese crew ran a good change of winning, their crew all except Loureiro, who has just recovered from an attack of dengue, being in first-class fettle. But in the event they were overmatched by the English. The boats got away to a good start. On the outside station the Portuguese showed very well at the beginning and pulled strongly together. The English crew worked beautifully in combination right from the start. As regards the Scotch, they did not show the stamina evinced by their opponents. Though they got well away, they were the first to show signs of weakening and kept in third position until the end. Slowly the English forged ahead of their rivals during the first half of the race, but as the line was approached they went stronger than ever and sent their craft home in splendid style 6 lengths in front. The Thistle was about a length behind the Shamrock at the finish. Time, 8 mins. 53 secs.

THIRD RACE.

FOR MEN-OF-WAR'S GIGS AND WHALERS.—Distance, about a mile. Entrance, \$1. First prize, \$15; second, \$5. The boats to be approved by the Committee. Time allowed for oars, 8 seconds per oar. Three boats must start or no race.

- 1, *Glory*, 6 oars.
- 2, *Orlando*, 5 oars.
- 3, *Arethusa*, 6 oars.

There were no less than 11 entries for this event, which was very hardly contested throughout. Shortly after the start an oar broke in two boats but new ones were quickly put out. Protests were lodged against a couple of the competing boats for using flash oars. Owing to this the final decision was deferred until the Committee should have considered the protest.

FOURTH RACE.

HARBOUR POLICE.—Open to the Chinese members of the Harbour Police. To be rowed in the service boats. Distance about a mile. Entrance, 50 cents. Winner of the race first day excluded. First prize, \$10. Second prize, \$40. Three boats to start for two prizes.

- 1, No. 5 Boat Harbour Master.
- 2, No. 4 Boat Water Police.
- 3, No. 1 Boat Water Police.

Won in good style by about 10 lengths. Time, 7 mins. 45 secs.

FIFTH RACE.

CHALLENGE CUP.—Victoria Recreation Club v. Hongkong Boat Club. For four-oars. Distance, one-mile-and-a-quarter. Entrance, \$10. To be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club.

- 1, ... Hongkong Boat Club.

Station No. 3.—Green and White.

	st.	lbs.
Bow... F. C. Barlow	9	19
2... J. O. Hughes	10	10
3... A. B. Rouse	11	10
Stroke... H. L. Bingay	11	6
Cox... G. R. Stevens, jr.	10	0

- 2, ... Hongkong Boat Club.

Station No. 4.—Green and white.

	st.	lbs.
Bow... J. D. Danby	10	10
2... G. S. Palmer	10	10
3... E. W. Carpenter	11	12
Stroke... C. McI. Messer	12	4
Cox... C. H. Gale	10	0

- 3, ... Victoria Recreation Club.

Station No. 2.—White and red.

	st.	lbs.
Bow... J. Millar	10	10
2... A. E. Alves	11	6
3... C. E. A. Hance	11	6
Stroke... A. A. Alves	11	5
Cox... F. W. White	10	0

- 4, ... Victoria Recreation Club.

Station No. 1.—Black and Pink.

	st.	lbs.
Bow... A. Humphreys	10	10
2... J. Hance	12	4
3... W. Stopani	13	1
Stroke... R. Lapsley	11	4
Cox... R. Henderson	10	0

The boats got away to start good, of which if anything the V.R.C. boat on the inside station had the advantage. But the slight lead they thus obtained was soon lost and this boat gave up 400 yards from home when hopelessly left behind. It was then left to the other V.R.C. crew to race the Boat Club's two crews, but in this they were easily overmatched. It soon became evident that the race was to be between the Boat Club crews. They struggled pluckily for the victory right up to the finish. Success ultimately rested with H. L. Bingay's crew who won by a length and a half in spite of a splendid spurt by Messer's crew a quarter of a mile from home. It was a signal triumph for the Boat Club. Time, 8mins. 42½secs.

SIXTH RACE.

SNAKE BOATS.—Open to Chinese snake boats. Distance, one mile. 1st prize, \$10; 2nd prize, \$5. Eight boats to start for 2 prizes. The winner of No. 7 race 1st day excluded.

- 1, ... Yau Ki
- 2, ... Wing Maw-chan

There were 7 entries. The two first boats were well in front of all the others at the finish. Time, 7mins. 10secs.

SEVENTH RACE.

GERMAN CUP.—Presented by the members of the Club Germania. For four-oars. Distance, one mile. Entrance, \$10. To be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club.

- 1, ... Thistle.

Station No. 4.—White and blue.

	st.	lbs.
Bow... A. Humphreys	11	10
2... R. Lapsley	11	4
3... C. E. A. Hance	11	6
Stroke... A. A. Alves	11	5
Cox... R. Henderson	10	0

- 2, ... Rose.

Station No. 1.—Green and white.

	st.	lbs.
Bow... R. G. Heckford	11	6
2... J. D. Danby	10	10
3... E. W. Carpenter	11	12
Stroke... C. McI. Messer	12	4
Cox... F. W. White	10	0

- 3, ... Shamrock

Station No. 2.—Green and white.

	st.	lbs.
Bow... F. C. Barlow	10	10
2... G. S. Palmer	9	10
3... A. B. Rouse	11	6
Stroke... H. L. Bingay	11	6
Cox... G. R. Stevens	10	0

This race provided an exciting finish, being won by a length, with ¾ of a length between second and third. The Leek fell out when a

couple of hundred yards from home, and a very hard struggle ensued for places among the three remaining boats. Time, 7 mins. 24½ secs.

EIGHTH RACE.

CHINESE CUP.—For four-oars. Open to members and subscribers of the Victoria Recreation Club who have never won a race at a Regatta in China. Distance, one mile. Entrance, \$5. To be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club.

- 1, ... Leek.

Station No. 4.—White and red.

	st.	lbs.
Bow... J. H. Seth	9	11
2... H. W. Sayer	9	4
3... F. K. Tata	10	1
Stroke... N. H. Alves	9	4
Cox... A. Humphreys	10	0

- 2, ... Rose.

Station No. 1.—Black and yellow.

	st.	lbs.
Bow... A. V. Barros	10	7
2... H. Rapp	9	10
3... S. R. Moore	9	7
Stroke... G. H. Ruby	10	5
Cox... A. E. Alves	10	0

- 3, ... Thistle.

Station No. 2.—Pink and green.

	st.	lbs.
Bow... J. M. Roza Pereira	8	5
2... J. R. Jordan	9	12
3... H. S. Holmes	10	6
Stroke... S. A. Seth	9	6
Cox... F. T. Bain	10	0

Before the race had been long started the Kornblume and the Thistle showed signs of failing. Shamrock, Pose, and Leek kept well together until only about a quarter of the course was left uncovered. It looked as if there was to be a hard tussle between Shamrock and Leek, but unfortunately for them one of the crew of the former caught a crab and she was left hopelessly behind. The Rose took up the running against the leading boat but was beaten by ¾ of a length, while the Thistle pulled up pluckily and secured third honours.

CRICKET.

A CLUB XI v. A GARRISON XI.

In this match, neither side was at full strength, but the Garrison was more unfortunate in this respect than the Club, and could not raise more than ten men. Radcliffe and Preedy opened the batting against Smith and Reinold and put on 31 for the first wicket. Clapham then came in and opened his shoulders at once. He made many powerful hits, but bore a remarkably charmed life, his very audacity seeming to paralyse the fieldsmen. Radcliffe and Beresford Ash batted best for the Garrison, the latter's innings being both vigorous and sound. Later on Edmondson livened up matters a bit, having a slice of the luck of his brother officer.

The innings closed for the Club, which would have been at least 50 less, had innumerable catches not been missed. Besides fielding well, Csessey got rid of Dorehill by a clever catch in the slips. The ground-fielding was fair, but the ability to get at or hold a ball in the air was most conspicuously absent. Reinold bowled steadily, but with bad fortune.

The Club had a little under two hours for getting the runs set them, but obtained them for the loss of five wickets in about an hour and a half. Moore and Mackenzie made a long and useful stand for the second wicket. The former went ahead of Mackenzie very fast at first, but the latter was rapidly overhauling him when he left for a brilliantly played 55. Reinold was badly run out, for his partner should have responded to the call made on him. Sheward stayed with Mackenzie whilst 50 runs were added, of which he claimed 17 by some good strokes. During Hooper's stay at the wicket, the winning hit was made and the 100 went up from one of his strokes, but at 201 he had to go for a useful 13. Nine runs later Mackenzie's fine innings was closed by a good catch by Venables, who fielded well throughout. His 84 was a most vigorous display, which included two 6's and eight 4's: he used his reach and avoided the half-cock strokes which have ere this cut short his stay at the wickets. If we mistake not, this is his highest innings in Hongkong: we hope to have more such displays at his hands, now that he has tasted the sweets of robust hitting. From 180 onwards Clapham

met with great success as a bowler, obtaining 4 wickets in 5 overs at a cost of only 18 runs! In the end, which came after Clapham started trundling, the Club topped the Garrison score by 29 runs only, though the match was over earlier by 5 wickets.

The departure of Major Dyson, A.P.D., on the 7th instant deprived the Club of a sound bat and a very ardent and consistent supporter of cricket; the best wishes of the Club follow him.

Appended are the score and analysis:—

GARRISON XI.

First Innings.	
Capt. Radcliffe, c Cossey, b Reinold	26
Pte. Preedy, c Sercombe Smith, b Reinold	14
Capt. Clapham, c Wood, b Sercombe Smith	55
Q. M. S. James, b Reinold	1
Major Berford-Ash, b Woodgates	48
Sergt. Hayward, b Sercombe Smith	10
Major Dorehill, c Cossey, b Sercombe Smith	0
G. E. Edmondson, c Wood, b Reinold	17
J. D. Venables, b Mackenzie	7
C. W. Dale, not out	0
Extras	11

Total 189

CLUB XI.

First Innings.	
Lieut. Wood, R.N., b Preedy	4
P. Moore, R.N., c Dorehill, b James	55
A. Mackenzie, c Venable, b Clapham	84
J. A. Woodgates, b James	7
Lieut. Reinold, R.N., run out	6
Surg. Sheward, R.N., c James, b Clapham	17
J. Hooper, c Venables, b Clapham	13
A. E. Cossey, R.N., c and b Preedy	5
G. Grimbale, c sub., b Preedy	2
G. H. Edwards, l.b.w. b Clapham	1
T. Sercombe Smith, not out	4
Extras	0

Total 218

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

GARRISON XI.

First Innings.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Sercombe Smith	18	2	61	3
Reinold	21	—	95	4
Mackenzie	6	2	10	1
Woodgates	2	1	8	1

CLUB XI.

First Innings.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Dorehill	12	—	68	—
Preedy	11.3	1	55	3
James	7	1	37	2
Venables	1	—	5	—
Radcliffe	1	—	13	—
Clapham	5	—	18	4

CRAIGENGOWER C.C. V. R. YAL ENGINEER C.C.

A match was played at the Happy Valley on the 7th inst. between the Craigengower C.C. and the Royal Engineers C.C. and resulted in a draw. The following are the scores:—

CRAIGENGOWER C.C.

J. P. Jordan, not out	55
J. L. Stuart, b Tillman	6
R. Pestonji, c Yeats, b Clarke	4
L. A. Rose, b Kerrigan	14
J. H. Ruttonjee, b Kerrigan	0
L. E. Lammert, c Lillywhite, b Jackman	13
M. E. Asger, not out	12
J. H. Seth	—
E. Seth	—
A. E. Asger	—
H. Harteam	—
Extras	13

Total (for 5 wickets) 117

ROYAL ENGINEER C.C.

Lillywhite, b Pestonji	22
Woods, not out	15
Tillman, b Pestonji	0
Jackman, b Harteam	0
Yeats, not out	4
Kerrigan, c Lammert, b Harteam	6
Clarke	—
Palmer	—
Serace	—
Barnfather	—
Ford	—
Extras	2

Total (for 4 wickets) 49

QUEEN'S COLLEGE C.C. V. CRAIGENGOWER 2ND XI.

This match was played at the Happy Valley on Saturday, the 7th inst., and resulted in an easy win for Queen's College. Appended are the scores:—

CRAIGENGOWER 2ND XI.

Goldenburg, not out	24
M. A. Razack, b J. Rumjahn	2
R. Witchell, c Tayler, b Rumjahn	4
J. Witchell, c Sui Kwong, b Tayler	16
S. R. Curreen, b D. Rumjahn	0
C. Ley Kum, c H. K. Leung, b D. Rumjahn	0

M. Suffaid, b D. Rumjahn	1
Remedios, jr., b D. Rumjahn	6
Remedios, sr., c H. K. Leung, b D. Rumjahn	0
Dannenberg, b Rumjahn	0
B. Wong, b D. Rumjahn	0
Byes	3

Total 52

QUEEN'S COLLEGE C.C.

H. Fucker, c Suffaid, b Ley Kum	8
D. Rumjahn, b Ley Kum	11
J. Rumjahn, not out	23
Hung Kwok Leung, not out	8
H. Tayler	—
Shi Sui Kwong	—
Campos	—
Wong Sui Cheong	—
C. V. Curreen	—
W. Alarakia	—
E. Bunje	—
Byes	7

Total 57

FOOTBALL.

The Hongkong Football Club met and defeated the 25th Company, R.G.A., in a match at Happy Valley on the 7th inst. The Club had easily the best of the game, and defeated their opponents by four goals to nil.

The Rugby football match on the 12th inst. between the Club and the Navy ended in an easy win for the latter by 2 goals and 2 tries (16 points) to nil. The Navy three-quarter backs, among whom was the International Percy Royds, were far too good for the home team and at times showed very pretty passing. The Club forwards were good in the close game, and in the scrimmages occasionally carried their opponents off their legs. At half-time the Navy had only scored a goal, and the game was not much in their favour. The second half, however, went very much against the Club, and the Navy won a handsome victory.

BOXING AT THE CITY HALL.

Under the auspices of the newly formed Olympic Club a boxing tournament was held on the 9th inst. in the City Hall. There was a good house. Among the various items on the programme, most interest centred perhaps in the open competition for the silver cup presented by Mr. J. Lacock of Bay View Hotel. No less than seven entries were received for it. As a result of the preliminary bouts which were fought off in the afternoon it was left to Gunner Harvey, R.M.A. (according to the official programme and announcement this was the name) and Seaman P. Keogh, H.M.S. *Aurora*, to meet in the final. This was the first event of the evening. The contestants looked pretty much alike as to weight, but they had not been in the ring for more than a few seconds before it was seen that Harvey was much over matched. Keogh, who was in the pink of condition, got all over his man several times in the first round, at the end of which his opponent showed decidedly groggy. Harvey came up gamely however at the call of time, but lasted only 45 seconds more, being knocked out by a straight dab. The cup was formally presented to the winner at the close. The challenge of P. O. Hendrick to stop "Sailor" Smith of H.M.S. *Whiting* in six rounds had been expected to provide an exciting contest, but owing to the fact that Hendrick was suffering from a nasty injury to his right wrist the contest was not continued to a finish. The men boxed a couple of rounds in which Hendrick made a very plucky fight, but before the end of the second he had to stop. He offered however to meet Smith under similar conditions when his arm is healed. Bets which had been laid were declared off. Private Sanford, R.W.F., sparred six rounds with Private Warren, R.W.F., and though conceding something like 2st. was easily victor. A good feather-weight contest took place between Seaman Howell and Private Howard, R.A.M.C., and resulted in a draw. During the evening Edwards challenged all comers at 128 lbs. The whole arrangements were well carried out. Mr. Michael Collins acted as referee, Mr. W. Muskett as master of ceremonies, and Mr. Frost as time-keeper; while Mr. J. H. Downs performed the managerial duties with his accustomed energy.

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

CAPTAIN'S CUP AND SILVER MEDAL FOR DECEMBER.

The following cards were returned:—

CAPTAIN'S CUP.

Mr. J. H. T. McMurtrie	79 + 2	81
Mr. E. J. Grist	86 — 5	81
Mr. H. W. Robertson	91 — 10	81
Major Dorehill, R.A.	96 — 10	86
Hon. Stewart Lockhart	103 — 15	88

11 entries.

POOL.

Mr. J. H. T. McMurtrie	79 + 2	81
Mr. E. J. Grist	86 — 5	81
Mr. T. S. Forrest	80 + 2	82

9 entries.

The "Tie" for the Captain's Cup must be played off by the three members as their first round of the links on or before the 18th instant.

POLO.

On the 10th inst. the second match for the R. A. Trophy took place, the contesting teams being the Staff and Hongkong Polo Club. The teams were:—

STAFF.

HONGKONG POLO CLUB.

Capt. Trefusis	1	Comdr. Orpen
Major Hamilton	2	Mr. Cruickshank
Lt.-Col. Koe	3	Capt. Labertouche
Capt. Morren	4	Mr. T. H. Whitehead

After the throw-in for the first chukha the Club got possession, and in 40 seconds scored a subsidiary. On resuming play again the game, contrary to general expectation, went all in favour of the Club, who scored another subsidiary, which easily might have been a goal but for erratic hitting on the part of Labertouche, though not the worst on his side in this respect. Then came some give-and-take play about the centre of the ground, from which Labertouche, who certainly had the best trained pony on the ground, got possession and scored a third subsidiary for his side, just before the finish of the period.

In the second chukha the Club immediately began to press; Labertouche for his side getting in a wonderful amount of work, but here a long pause took place, though the ball was still in play, through the Staff back dropping his stick and not being able to find it. On resuming the Staff got away, Koe taking the ball down the field, only to be stopped by the Club back, who with a good hit sent the ball well up the ground, where Orpen getting possession carried it up the edge and then with a good back-hand sent it before the goal, when Whitehead put it through. During this period the Club had all the play and should have scored oftener, but against this must be put the fact that Warren's pony seemed to keep him out of his place most of the time.

Six minutes 43 seconds remained for the third chukha, during which time the Club scored 3 goals; the Staff's ponies seemed to be done up altogether and only once did the ball leave their end of the ground, when Trefusis and Warren, better mounted this time, got in a useful run but were stopped by Cruickshank. With this exception the Club pressed all the time, Labertouche notching 2 goals and Orpen one for their side.

What struck the spectator most during the match was the unnecessary amount of argument which went on even after the umpire had given his decision on the particular point; the game actually stopped once while the opposing Nos. 3 thrashed out a point for themselves. The Club were the best mounted, remarkably so in the second chukha, but this would not account altogether for their superiority. For the winners Labertouche played splendidly and was well backed up by Whitehead, who certainly was at his best; for the losers Koe at times was good, but Hamilton was not in his true form, while Warren and Trefusis were handicapped badly by their ponies.

The final between the Club and R.W.F. will be played on Saturday 14th at 3.45 p.m. sharp, when by kind permission of Col. Bertie and officers the band of the R.W.F. will attend.

The R.A. will be at home to their friends on the ground.

HOCKEY.

CLUB v. H.M.S. "BLENHEIM."

This match was played on the Hockey Club's new grounds, adjoining the Football Club's, resulting in a win for the naval team by 5 goals to nil. The following represented the Navy:—Harvey (goal); Gibbs and Norman (backs); Law, Smythe, and Luard (halves); Hamilton, Yukes-Hughes, Burrows, Jones, Mowey (forwards). The Club were represented by T. C. Gray (goal); Yeats and Campbell (backs); Bewley, Chater and Ensor (halves); Browne, R. E. Stevens, R. E., Dykes, R. A., Shettle and Hooper.

The Navy had the best of the game all through and played splendidly together. It is hard to say which of the players especially shone, as they were all very good, but Yukes-Hughes (forward) and Smythe (half back) played perhaps a more forcing game than the rest and the former did some excellent runs and was instrumental in adding two goals to the Navy score. For the Club, Gray showed very good judgement in saving, although he should be careful not to pick outside the 25 yards circle, and the number of goals scored against him can only be put down to the fast and accurate shooting of the Navy forwards. The backs played a very sound game, having a lot to do, as the play was mostly confined to the Club end. Yeats showed up well and has improved immensely since the commencement of the season. The halves also worked very hard, especially Ensor, who was playing a magnificent game. The forwards did not seem to get along well, the passing being indifferent. Hooper made some good attempts to take the ball down, but invariably over-ran the ball. He should also pass a little quicker instead of keeping the ball to himself. Dykes did not quite come up to his reputation of being a very good centre forward. On the whole, individually the Club team played well, but they lacked the combination of the Navy team.

If the members of the Hockey Club wish to win any matches they will have to turn up far more regularly to the practice games, and learn to play together. It must be disheartening to the hard-working secretary to arrange a practice game and then to have about six (or even less) a side turn up, as has been the case this season.

SLOW PROGRESS AT PORT ARTHUR.

Mr. Soda, manager of Seaman & Co., Port Arthur, was recently interviewed at Kobe by a representative of a vernacular paper. Mr. Soda remarked that the works at the port are not making satisfactory progress on account of the financial strain. The French loan was mainly appropriated for the interest of loans, and only a small portion was spent for the railway and the harbour works of Port Arthur and Talienwan. The Russian authorities, expected to appropriate the Chinese indemnity for the Eastern project but no payment of the indemnity has taken place as yet. It is now reported that the Russians are contemplating floating a loan in America. The Russian residents are complaining of the slow progress made, and the authorities, afraid of an appeal to Mr. Romanoff, who visited the place a short time ago, concealed the expected visit of the Minister. The Naval offices and residences are already completed, but those for military men and for the Russian subject are not yet finished. The houses in the streets are similar to those at the time of the Japanese occupation in 1895. Mr. Von Hanneken is undertaking the harbour works by contract. The Russian supervision of Japanese subjects is not very strict. Petty offences are dealt with by the Japanese Association with whom the authorities leave the police administration power. The steamers which fly the flag of the East China Railway Co. number 28, according to Mr. Soda's estimation. One steamer of the R. V. F. is running between Vladivostok, Talienwan, Port Arthur and Odessa. It is reported that the Russians intend to run steamers from Talienwan to America and compete with the forwarding of goods from Berlin to New York across the Atlantic. It is, however, doubted if their project will meet with the success that they

expect. The Liao-ho, Amur and Sungari afford a good chance for vessels to convey goods in Manchuria, and the railway will have to cut down the rate of freight in order to compete with the junks, etc.

TRADE MARKS IN CHINA.

The Manchester Chamber of Commerce, having written to the Foreign Office on the subject of the fraudulent imitation of registered British trade marks, desiring a copy of the instructions to the Commission of which Sir James Mackay is the head, in order that the Chamber might be able to know how far the Commissioners may be competent to deal with this further question, received the following reply:—

Foreign Office, October 29, 1901.

Sir,—I laid before the Marquis of Lansdowne your letter to Sir M. Gosselin, of the 23rd inst., in which you request that the Manchester Chamber of Commerce may be supplied with a copy of the instructions given to His Majesty's Special Commissioner in China, on the subject of the protection of registered British trade marks. I am directed by his lordship to state that Sir J. Mackay was informed that the securing of adequate protection for foreign trade marks and inventions was one of the matters with which it would be desirable to deal in the revised treaty, but that no detailed instructions were given to him on the subject. On this point, as on others connected with the negotiations with which he has been entrusted, he will, on his arrival in China, place himself in communication with the best qualified to give him information as to the views of the commercial communities of Hongkong and the principal Treaty Ports. I am to add that the Secretary of State would be glad to forward to Sir J. Mackay any expression of the views of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce on the above point which they may be desirous of placing on record.—I am, &c.,

FRANCIS BERTIE.

CHINA COTTON-MILLS AND THE NEW TARIFF.

It is well known that many of the English houses are directly interested financially in the cotton-mills established in recent years. These enterprises have so far proved very disappointing to the shareholders. A combination of all the mills in China, those owned by natives as well as those owned by British and other foreign capitalists, has been suggested as a possible remedy for the situation; but such a combination of native and foreign mills does not seem practicable. And it is pointed out that, even if it could be effected, the combination would only be able to control the production, sales, and prices of the yarn, and not the price of raw cotton, so long as the supply of cotton grown in China is not equal to the demand for the China mills. The high price of material is, however, said to be the main if not the sole cause of the financial difficulties of these enterprises. Large over-drafts, involving heavy interest charges, are incurred, because from nine to twelve months' consumption of China-grown cotton must be secured at the beginning of the season, in order to avoid the risk of the staple being exported to Japan or even to Europe and the mills in China itself being consequently left without supplies. Such advance purchases are, however, essentially speculative, and may turn out well or ill, according to the course of raw cotton prices in the world's raw cotton market. Generally, the effect has been to raise the price against the mills, if we may trust the statement that the average price for the last five years has been 15 per picul, as against only 11, the price mentioned in several of the prospectuses of the mills. If in order to meet the deficiency or high cost of the local material, Indian or American cotton is imported, a duty of 5 per cent. has to be paid. Moreover, cotton obtained from up country is subject to *lekin* charges. It is therefore being boldly urged not only that foreign raw cotton and imported stores for the mills in China should be exempted from duty, but that an export duty of 10 per cent. should be levied on all China-grown cotton exported to Japan or Europe. The proposal to impose a prohibitive duty on

exports of China raw cotton is not exactly consistent with the suggestion that the export duties should be lightened in order to encourage native industries by removing burdens on the export trade, and if an exception is to be made in this instance for the benefit of the spinning companies in China there would be no logical reason why a special and prohibitive import duty should not be imposed on cotton yarns with the same object. It is certain, however, that any proposals of special legislation in favour of the mills in China would meet with the strenuous opposition of India and Japan, even if it could be assumed that the interests of Lancashire would remain practically unaffected by such differentiation in the new tariff.—*Manchester Guardian*.

HONGKONG.

M. R. Réau is recognised as in charge of the French Consulate here during the absence from the Colony of M. G. E. Liébert, consul.

The police report that Olaf Andersen, a seaman on the vessel *Osberg*, was taken to hospital on the 11th inst. suffering from exhaustion, bruises, and cuts. He had gone on board the worse for drink and started to fight. In the course of this he jumped overboard and swam to the s.s. *Gaelic*. His injuries are not serious.

The following returns of the average amount of bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during November, are certified by the managers of the respective banks:—

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China	3,008,198	1,600,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	7,668,500	5,000,000
National Bank of China, Limited	441,350	150,000
Total	\$11,118,048	6,750,000

The French Sisters held their annual bazaar on the 1st inst. in the City Hall in aid of the poor Chinese orphans of the Asile de la Sainte Enfance. It was gratifying to see the large numbers who attended the bazaar in the course of the afternoon and bought liberally of the articles exposed to sale. The net result should be a handsome contribution to the funds of this most deserving institution. The Sisters were energetically assisted by numerous ladies who in the rôle of stall-holders or ticket-vendors were eminently successful in loosening the visitors' purse-strings. For the pretty arrangement of the stalls no little praise is due to those ladies responsible. The excellent quality of the needle and fancywork of the orphans was a general subject of remark, reflecting as it did the highest credit upon the Sisters for the patient and painstaking teaching which they impart to the little orphans under their care. H.E. the Governor was patron of the bazaar.

The Portuguese transport *Africa* returned on the 12th inst. to Macao.

A daring robbery is reported as having been perpetrated on the ss. *Loongsang*, which is at present lying in the Harbour. Captain G. S. Weigall went on shore on the 6th inst. to visit some friends, leaving his keys in his cabin. These his boy found and placed below the pillow. When Mr. Weigall returned late in the evening he found that the right-hand drawer of his escritoire had been unlocked and taken away. It contained cash to the amount of about \$700 and papers—I. O. U's, etc., representing over \$1000. Some photographs were also missing. No clue has been got as to the thief or thieves so far, but the police are prosecuting a vigorous search. The people on the ship, including the Chinese quartermaster on duty at the gangway, declare they saw no one come on board, so it is likely that the robbers clambered up the side at some unwatched part of the vessel. This is all the more likely as there was the usual large number of cargo-boats surrounding the steamer at the time. The second officer says he saw a light in the cabin about 10 o'clock but paid no attention otherwise, as he concluded that the captain was in the room. In the course of the day Captain Weigall had paid the crew their month's wages and also received his own pay, so that there was more money in the cabin than there otherwise would have been. Obviously the robbers were well acquainted with the ship.

The Hon. R. Murray Rumsey has been elected a member of the Church Body, vice Sir John Carrington, C.M.G., resigned.

The Rev. F. T. Johnson, assistant chaplain of St. John's Cathedral, left on the 7th inst. for home on a well-deserved holiday.

One of our representatives in the recent Interport cricket matches left for England on the 7th inst., in the person of Major Dyson, A.P.D.

On the 11th inst. the police reported that on the previous day a Chinese coolie, aged 16, fell from a building in course of erection in Cross Street, Wanchai, and sustained injuries from which he died.

Fire broke out on the 9th inst. in a vegetable-store at 22, Chinese Street. It spread to the first floor, but the Fire Brigade, under Inspector Kemp, succeeded in extinguishing the outbreak before it developed serious proportions. The damage was slight—\$100—and is not covered by insurance. The fire was the result of carelessness.

A correspondent writes to us concerning the bill-sticking nuisance in Hongkong, which, he says, is becoming too much of a good thing. He reports having seen police officers looking on while the bill-stickers were posting bills on the granite posts at the ends of the railings at Glenealy, in spite of Ordinance 14 of 1845, Section 3, sub-section 2.

Warder Curtis, who absconded from Victoria Gaol on the 12th of last October, and left the Colony, taking with him a sum of nearly \$300 belonging to his mess, was captured in town yesterday morning by Detective Sergt. Kerr and Constable Gibson, who observed him walking in the street. Later in the day he was brought up at the Magistracy and remanded.

A few minutes before 3 o'clock on the 10th inst. the Fire Brigade were summoned to a fire which had broken out at 279 Queen's Road Central in a three-story building occupied as a dry-goods shop and store. The Brigade promptly turned out, under the command of Mr. G. Kemp, but found on their arrival at the scene that the flames had secured a firm hold of the building. The staff had to work under the disadvantage of having to pump sea-water from the Praya, but nevertheless succeeded in confining the conflagration to the structure in which it had originated, though this was completely destroyed. The damage is estimated at \$1,700 and is covered by a policy for \$2,500 in the Li Fuk Insurance Office.

In the billiard-room at the Central Police Office on the 11th inst., Constable Alexander Waters, who is returning home to the "lang toon o' Kirkaldy," invalidated, after about 13 years service, was made the recipient of a purse of sovereigns by the members of the Police Force. Sergeant MacSwayed made the presentation. He referred to Constable Waters's popularity among his comrades in the Hongkong Police and expressed the wish that he would soon be restored to health, be successful in whatever walk of life he chose in his native country, and that he would remember all his old friends in the Colony. Sergeant MacSwayed also made reference to the good feeling entertained toward Constable Waters by the Chinese. Constable Waters, who replied in fitting terms, came to Hongkong from the Glasgow Police Force.

On the occasion of the installation of Right Worshipful Bro. H. Horley, P.M., a smoking concert was given on the 6th inst. by the members of the Naval and Military Lodge No. 848, S.C., in the Banqueting Hall of the Masonic Lodge in Zetland Street. The gathering was of a very successful nature, the company numbering about 150. Deputy District Grand Master E. C. Rae performed the installation ceremony, and among others present were Worshipful Bros. Farmer, Howell, Bridger, Crombie, Hall, and Lockhead, Past Masters. The programme was well varied and there was no lack of excellent talent to sustain its various parts. The vocal artistes, who were numerous, gave some first-class contributions toward the success of the meeting. Among the singers were Messrs. F. R. Viggers, G. Wallis, G. Simmers, F. Browne, J. Oxberry, H. A. Ward, F. G. Whittick, and Lindsay (coon songster); while violin selections were given by Mr. Sibbitt and a recitation by Mr. H. M. Pyke. The duties of accompanist were ably discharged by Mr. C. Mephram. An excellent cold supper was served in the course of the evening.

A grass-fire on a big scale occurred at Shallow on the 8th inst. The police succeeded in putting it out.

The extension of the prohibition to export arms, etc., or carry them coastwise within the Colony, for a further period of six months is notified in the *Gazette*.

It was reported on Friday that Theodore Carlsen, a seaman on board the sailing-ship *Osberga*, had been removed to the Government Civil Hospital suffering from severe injuries sustained by falling from the fore top while at work.

The Mother Superior and Sisters of the Asile de Sainte Enfance desire to thank most cordially the stallholders and those who assisted and patronised their bazaar on the 10th inst. The sum of \$1,600 was realised, which was less than in previous years. The sale is still being continued at the Convent.

Robberies in the Harbour are becoming alarmingly frequent, and it behoves masters and officers of vessels arriving to keep everything of a valuable nature under lock and key. The latest theft is reported from the *Haitan*. At Amoy she shipped several thousand dollars' worth of bar gold, which was discharged on her arrival in Hongkong. The presence on board, though not the discharge, of the gold was apparently known to a gang of robbers, for the vessel was boarded and the main cabin ransacked during his absence on shore. A lockfast desk was burst open and a sum of \$300 and also a gold watch and chain were taken away. So far no clue has been obtained to the perpetrators of the theft.

The Empire Comedy Company concluded its season in Hongkong on the 7th inst., when a large house assembled to witness the farewell performance of this popular variety combination. The entertainment went off with the happy swing that has been such a pleasant feature of every performance, and the various items of the programme were excellently received—in the majority of cases encored. Mr. Steve Adson, who had occasion on the previous night to rebuke one or two people for interrupting him, met another obstructionist in a spectator sitting in the front row of the pit, whom he effectually silenced by a few words very much to the point. This piece of by-play was much appreciated. The company has left for Singapore, where a brief stay only will be made.

There was launched on Thursday evening from Kwong Tuck Cheong's Shipbuilding Yard at Hunghom the s.s. *Wing Chai*, built for the Wayuen Steamship Co., Ltd. (manager, Mr. Yung Fu Sang). The new steamer is one of the largest ever built here. Her tonnage is about 900 gross, and her dimensions are:—184ft. in length, by 21ft. beam, by 12ft. 6in. depth of hold. The engines, which were built by the Tin Hing Co., Wanchai, are of the compound surface condensing type; high pressure cylinder, 23in.; low pressure cylinder 46in.; length of stroke, 30in. She has two boilers, each 10ft. 6in. in diameter and 11ft. long; working pressure 110lbs. The vessels is built entirely of teak and has very fine lines. A speed of 11 knots is expected to be reached. The launching and christening ceremony was gracefully performed by Mrs. H. F. Carmichael.

While making enquiries on the 6th inst. regarding absconding house boys, in Bowloon, Sergeant O'Sullivan came across two unemployed cooks, one of whom had been in the service of Mr. T. H. Reid, 3, Knutsford Terrace, and these men he searched. On the person of one were found some European keys. In a room rented by another boy in the employment of Pastor Kriel he found a large quantity of provisions obviously stolen from Europeans. It was discovered then that this house was practically a rendezvous for house boys to bring anything they could steal to, the goods being paid for by one of the boys, who being a compradore's servant was able to dispose of them among his master's sales. The three boys were brought before Mr. Kemp at the Magistracy on Saturday. One was sentenced to 14 days' hard labour and the others were bound over. As an explanation of his possession of a quantity of butter, which among other things was found in the house, one of the prisoners said he had supplied the family with whom he served with lard instead. Another of the accused said he left his employment because he had too much work to do and too little pay for doing it.

The Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving returned from Shanghai by the *Stuttgart* on Monday night.

The only cases of communicable disease in the Colony last week were four of enteric fever, all Europeans in the Harbour and all imported. None proved fatal.

The visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum last week included 639 non-Chinese and 285 Chinese to the former, 102 non-Chinese and 1,925 Chinese to the latter institution.

While sailing from Sanmee to Canton with a cargo of 5,000 piculs of salt, a Chinese junk encountered rough weather off Lung Wan on the morning of the 11th inst. and was capsized and sunk. The crew escaped by taking to the boat.

The *Crown Land*, registered as Rural Building Lot No. 110, Deep Water Bay, which was exposed to public sale in the offices of the Public Works Department, was bought by Messrs. Shewan, Tomes & Co. for \$1,145, being \$20 of an advance upon the upset price.

At the Magistracy on Friday, Wing Yit, contractor, 5, Li Yuen Street, E., was sentenced by Mr. Kemp to pay a fine of \$25 with the alternative of 6 weeks' hard labour for having on 1th and 12th inst. caused an obstruction on Praya West by leaving a large quantity of timber and building material on the footpath there.

While working on Friday forenoon at No. 37, Wyndham Street, which is at present under repairs, two Chinamen were thrown to the ground from a considerable height through the collapse of a scaffold. They were removed to the Government Civil Hospital. One was rendered unconscious and was severely injured, it being supposed that he has sustained a fracture of the skull. The other escaped with some bruises and cuts.

On the 6th inst. H.M.S. *Cressy* returned from Mirs Bay. The German gunboat *Tiger* arrived from Pakhoi.

On the 8th inst. the German cruiser *Hertha* arrived from Amoy. The Hongkong Regiment returned home, after its long absence, in the Douglas steamer *Haiching*.

On the 10th inst. the Portuguese gunboat *Zaire* arrived from Macao. Early on the 11th inst. H.M.S. *Bramble* left for Canton.

H.M.S. *Britomart* arrived from Shanghai on the 10th inst.

H.M.S. *Astruc* went out on the 10th inst. for a cruise.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The War Office has been calling for Regular non-commissioned officers at home to volunteer for service with the Chinese Regiment of Infantry at Weihaiwei.

Mr. Alec Marsh gave a concert at the Lyceum Theatre, Shanghai, on the 5th inst., before a very fair house, and, assisted with half-a-dozen local amateurs, met with much success. Three of Mr. Marsh's own songs were from Wagner's dramas.

It was reported in Japan that many vessels of the British fleet, including the *Cressy*, *Terrible*, and *Argonaut*, would assemble at Yokohama during the first week of this month. The battleship *Goliath* was already at the northern port.

The following men-of-war were seen up the Yangtze lately:—H. M. S.S. *Phœnix* and *Snipe* at Hankow on the 28th ult.; H. M. S. *Esk* at Kiukiang on the 29th; H. M. S. *Pigmy* between Nanking and Wuhu on the 1st inst., and H. M. S. *Eclipse* at Chinkiang on the 2nd inst.

The following appointments have been made at the Admiralty:—Lieutenant O. H. Daniel, to the *Cressy* (N), to date Nov. 11; Engr. A. W. Bolton, to the *Alacrity*, undated; Assist. Engr. F. C. R. Paton to the *Alacrity*, undated; Prob. Assist. Engr. E. C. Green, to the *Orlando*, to date Nov. 1.

Pak Sai-jun, the Korean Minister for Foreign Affairs, who visited Japan to see the military manoeuvres, is still in Tokyo, and it would appear that advantage is being taken of his presence by the Japanese Government to endeavour to introduce some reforms into Korea. It is stated that Japan intends seriously to press legislative and administrative reforms upon Korea and to endeavour to bring about the recall of the Korean political refugees who are at present in Japan. Pak has been daily exchanging telegrams with his Government.

The St. Andrew's Ball at Yokohama on the 29th ult. is reported to have been quite as successful as those in former years.

The remains of Don Carlos Palanca, the formerly well-known Chinese representative at Manila, are on their way to Amoy on the s.s. *Yuensang*.

The last number to hand of *Vanity Fair* contains a cartoon by "Spy" and a lengthy biography of Sir Edward H. Seymour, late admiral on this station.

M. Getten, the engineer on the Oran bridge construction works, Algeria, has been authorised to accept the post of Director-General of the Indo-Chinese Railway in Yunnan.

A bankruptcy petition has been filed in the Yokohama Chihō Saibansho by the Yokohama branch of the Russo-Chinese Bank, against the Maples Hotel, Yokohama, for a claim of 18,301 yen.

The St. Andrew's Stakes was run off on the Shanghai racecourse shortly after mid-day on St. Andrew's Day. The conditions were:—"A sweepstakes of \$3:0 each for griffins purchased at auction on or after 30th October last. Catch weights, 10st. 12lbs. or over. Native riders not allowed. Three quarters of a mile." The race was carried off easily by Mr. Grisson, riding a spotted griffin belonging to Mr. John Peel. Mr. Toeg's white griffin, ridden by Mr. Cumming, was four lengths behind. Eight entered, but the quality was not good.

Among the Chinese in mid Java a movement to cut off the *towchang* is gaining ground. Those in favour of the innovation make much of the argument that it saves money. There would be, for instance, no need for a barber to dress the hair. Silk thread for the *towchang*, now so dear, will no longer be required. A much stronger argument is that tail-less Chinese can easily pass themselves off as Japanese for unlawful purposes. The Netherlands-Indian Government makes it a point that Asiatics should stick to their own national costume. To enforce this among the Java Chinese, it will be necessary to compel them by law to wear Chinese dress only. No law for bid the cutting of queues.

The following telegram, dated Washington, 4th December, has been received by the *Manila Times*:—"Senator Lodge has introduced an administration bill the purpose of which is to extend the provisions of the Dingley tariff against the Philippines. It is the opinion of many senators that one effect of Monday's decision of the Supreme Court will be the extension of the Dingley tariff rates to the Philippines instead of the present tariff which was enacted by the Civil Commission by the authority of the Secretary of War. Root has decided that the present tariff rates in the Philippines obtain and shall have full force and effect until the Courts order otherwise. A strong democratic senatorial opposition has developed against the Lodge bill. This means indefinite delay.

The Perak census report for 1901 shows the total population of the State to be 329,665 against 214,254 in 1891—an increase of 53.86 per cent. The Malays and kindred races muster 142,186 and the Chinese 150,239. The Chinese numbered only 94,315 ten years ago. The Indians shot up from 14,885 in 1891 to 34,760 in 1901. This increase in the Tamils and other natives of India is mainly due to the efforts of the various recruiting agencies directed by the Government and by individual employers of labour. The Tamils, who number 31,026, have increased by 17,940, or 137.9 per cent, and the Bengalis and all other natives of India, who number 3,734, by 1,935 or 107.55 per cent. The increase among the Malays and other Natives of the Archipelago is not so marked as that of the Chinese population. In this group the Malays number 13,470, or 92.47 per cent. of the total. The increases among the separate races are as follows, viz:—The Malays have increased by 34,751, or 35.93 per cent., Javanese by 1012, or 85.47 per cent., and Jawi Pekans by 208, or 177.77 per cent. Europeans and Americans come to 672 against 366 in 1891. The proportions of the main races in every 10,000 of the total population are now as follows, viz:—Europeans 20, Eurasians 17, Malays and other Natives of the Archipelago 4,312, Chinese 4,557, Indians 1054, Other Nationalities 37. The proportion of Malays is 3,987, and that of Tamils is 941.

COMMERCIAL.

CAMPBOR.

HONGKONG, 13th December.—No arrivals.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 13th December.—The position of the market is nearly the same as when last reported. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$8.75 to \$8.80	pcd.
do. " 2, White.....	7.85 to 7.90	"
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown ...	5.65 to 5.70	"
do. " 2, Brown ...	5.50 to 5.55	"
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	8.70 to 8.75	"
do. " 1, White.....	7.80 to 7.85	"
Swatow, No. 1, Brown ...	5.55 to 5.60	pcd.
do. " 2, Brown ...	5.40 to 5.45	"
Foochow Sugar Candy.....	12.85 to 12.88	"
Shekloong "	10.70 to 10.75	"

RICE.

HONGKONG 13th December.—The advance in price continues, market being brisk. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary.....	\$2.45 to 2.50
Round, Good quality	2.55 to 2.60
Long	3.75 to 3.80
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	2.00 to 2.65
Garden, " No. 1	3.20 to 3.25
White.....	3.70 to 3.75
Fine Cargo	4.00 to 40.5

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per Imperial German Mail steamer *Bayern*, sailed on the 27th November. For Aden:—1 box silkpiecgoods. For Odessa:—250 boxes cassia, 95 bales canes. For Naples:—2 boxes sundries, 1 box silk. For Trieste:—100 boxes cassia, 25 boxes cassiabuds. For Venice:—100 boxes cassia. For Genoa:—290 bales raw silk, 51 pkgs. canes, 14 bales waste silk. For Genoa and/or Barcelona:—50 pkgs. canes. For New York:—55 cases essentialoil. For Antwerp:—31 bales rattanore. For Amsterdam:—200 boxes ginger, 100 ½-chests tea. For Amsterdam and/or Rotterdam:—264 cases ginger. For Bremen and/or Hamburg:—74 rolls matting, 1 case grasscloth, 1 case embroideries. Rotterdam:—115 cases ginger, 105 cases ginger, 30 rolls matting:—For Manchester:—190 bales waste silk. For Bremen:—1 case Chinaware, 1 case sundries. For Bremen and/or Hamburg:—1 case feathers. For Hamburg:—165 bales feathers, 155 cases bristles, 24 cases ginger, 20 cases essentialoil, 14 bales rattanore, 12 cases human hair, 9 cases sundries, 9 boxes feathers, 3 cases silk.

Per P. & O. steamer *Japan*, sailed on the 1st December. For Manchester:—50 bales waste silk. For London opt Glasgow:—200 cases preserves. For London opt. Goole:—129 bales waste silk, 88 bales pierced cocoons. For Malta:—1 case curios. For London:—3,274 6's hemp from Manila, 2 cases cigars from Manila, 5,458 boxes tea, 516 m/bx. tea, 941 rolls mats and matting, 100 cases essentialoil, 40 cases Chinaware, 21 chts. persian opium, 6 cases woodware, 9 pkgs. rattan chais, 3 cases feathers, 3 cases lacquerware.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 13th December.—Amongst the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—*Bombay Yarn*: 150 bales No. 8 at \$80 to \$84, 1,050 bales No. 10 at \$83 to \$90, 750 bales No. 12 at \$85 to \$93, 250 bales No. 16 at \$97 to \$113, 1,450 bales No. 20 at \$100 to \$115.

METAL.—*Quicksilver*: 200 flasks at \$173.50 to arrive, 30 flasks at \$177.50 to arrive, 50 flasks at \$180. *Leads (new mark)*: 840 piculs at \$7.80. *Wire of Iron (round)*: 1,000 bundles at \$4.65 to arrive. *Yellow Metal (new brand)*: 50 cases 14 x 20 at \$11 to arrive, 40 cases 14 x 20 at \$11 to arrive, 50 cases 14 x 32 at \$41 to arrive, 60 cases 10 x 12 at \$43.25 to arrive.

Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	2.50	per pair
METALS—		per picul
Iron—Nail Rod	4.35	to —
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.	4.35	to —
Swedish Bar	7.00	to —
Small Round Rod	4.80	to —
Hoop ½ to 1 ½ in.	5.75	to —
Wire 15 25	8.25	to —
Old Wire Rope	2.50	to —

Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop ..	8.00	to —
Australian	7.80	to —
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14 20 oz.	41.00	to —
Vivian's 14 20 oz.	40.50	to —
Elliot's 14 20 oz.	40.00	to —
Composition Nails.....	65.00	to —
Japan Copper, Slabs.....	42.00	to —
Tin.....	69.25	to —

Tin-Plates	7.50	per box.
Steel ½ to ¾	6.25	per cwt. case
New Chops 14 20 oz.	—	to —

SUNDRIES—

Quicksilver	174.00	per picul
Window Glass	4.75	per box.
Kerosene Oil.....	2.30	per 10-gal. case
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	\$74.00 to \$114.00	per bale
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....	114.00 to 120.00	
" 22 to 24.....	120.00 to 128.00	
" 28 to 32.....	136.00 to 142.00	
" 38 to 42.....	155.00 to 170.00	
COTTON PIECE GOODS—		per piece.
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.10	to 2.15
7 lbs.	2.20	to 2.30
8.4 lbs.	2.80	to 3.40
9 to 10 lbs.	3.45	to 4.55
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.85	to 2.60
58 to 60 "	3.05	to 4.00
64 to 66 "	4.05	to 5.60
Fine.....	5.15	to 7.45
Book-folds	4.15	to 6.15
Victoria Lawns—12 yards.....	0.73	to 1.20
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	1.60	to 1.80
7lbs. (32 ")	1.85	to 2.15
6lbs. (32 "), Mexs.	1.82½	to 2.02½
7lbs. (32 ")	2.72½	to 3.20
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.)	2.80	to 3.40
Drills, English—40 yds., 14 to 16 lbs.	4.00	to 6.80

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs.	1.45	to 3.50
Brocades—Dyed	—	to —
Chintzes—Assorted	—	per yard
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.22	to 0.50
Velveteens—18 in.	0.21	to 0.26
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk	—	per dozen
WOOLENS—		per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.	0.62½	to 1.70
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths	1.25	to 3.00
Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs.	6.35	to 8.10
Assorted.....	6.45	to 8.20
Camlets—Assorted.....	12.00	to 30.75
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches	11.00	to 17.00
Assorted	—	to —
Orleans—Plain	—	to —

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

MONDAY, 14th December.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/10 ½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/10 ½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1 10 ¾
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/10 ¾
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/10 ¾
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/10 ¾
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.31½
Credits, 4 months' sight	2.35½
ON GERMANY.—On demand	1.88½
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	45
Credits, 60 days' sight	45½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	137½
Bank, on demand	138
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	137½
Bank, on demand	138
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	73½
Private, 30 days' sight	74½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	10
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	2½
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	par
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	111½

ON HAIPHONG.—
 Or demand 1½
 ON SAIGON.—
 On demand 1½
 ON BANGKOK.—
 On demand 60½
 SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate 10.74
 GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael 56
 BAR SILVER per oz. 25½

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR ANTWERP.—Wakasa Maru (str.).
 FOR LONDON.—Chusan (str.), Borneo (str.),
 Glauco (str.), Deucalion (str.), P. P. (str.),
 Glenroy (str.), Wakasa Maru (str.).
 FOR LIVERPOOL.—Izium (str.), Patroclus (str.).
 FOR MARSEILLES.—Ville de la Ciotat (str.).
 Wakasa Maru (str.).
 FOR BREMEN.—Konig Albert (str.), Nuernberg
 (str.).
 FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Ambria (str.),
 Serbia (str.), Sambia (str.), C. Ferd. Lucisz (str.),
 Nuernberg (str.), Strassburg (str.).
 FOR TRIESTE.—Austria (str.).
 FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—Tacoma (str.), Pakling
 (str.), Riojun Maru (str.), Iyo Maru (str.).
 FOR VANCOUVER.—Empress of Japan (str.),
 Tartar (str.).
 FOR NEW YORK.—Acara (str.), Lennox (str.),
 Athesia (str.).
 FOR PORTLAND (Or.).—Indravelli (str.).
 FOR SAN DIEGO.—Thyra (str.).
 FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.—Taiguan (str.),
 Kumano Maru (str.).
 FOR BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND PENANG.—
 Bormida (str.).
 FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG, AND CALCUTTA.—
 Suisang (str.).
 FOR CALCUTTA.—Seneca (str.).

SHARE REPORT.

HONGKONG, 13th December. — Continued dullness has ruled in our market during the past week, and we have only a miscellaneous business to report.

BANKS. — Small sales of Hongkong and Shanghai are reported at \$620. The London rate has slightly receded to £63. Nationals are offering at \$27.

MARINE INSURANCES. — Unions can be placed to some extent at \$342½. China Traders have sold at \$53 and are wanted at rather less. North Chinas can be placed at Tls. 180. Yangtszes continue on offer at \$130, and Cantons at \$155.

FIRE INSURANCES. — Hongkongs are obtainable at \$365. Chinas are still in request at \$86½.

SHIPPING. — Hongkong, Canton and Macao have firmed up, and are in strong request at \$35½. Indo-Chinas have weakened, and are obtainable at \$145. China and Manilas are quiet at \$62½. Douglasses have sold at \$47. Star Ferries are offering at \$24 for the old, and \$9 for the new issues. Shell Transports have further improved and are now salable at £2 17s. 6d.

REFINERIES. — China Sugars continue quiet at \$61. Luzons under a continued enquiry have jumped to \$26.

MINING. — Punjoms have sold at \$5½, and are now obtainable at \$5½. Charbonnages have been placed at \$325, and are now quoted at \$350. Jelebus are still offering at \$4½. Raubs have declined to \$11 with sellers.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS. — Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have ruled very dull and close with sellers at \$290. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves can be obtained at \$96. New Amoy Docks are wanted at \$25.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS. — Hongkong Lands have sold at \$195, and are further obtainable at the rate. Kowloon Lands can be purchased at \$34. West Points are in the market to a small extent at \$65. Hongkong Hotels, after sales at \$140 for the settlement, are now offering at \$139. Orientes can probably be placed at \$56. Humphreys Estates are wanted at \$13½, but are not obtainable under \$14.

COTTON MILLS. — Hongkong Cottons have declined to \$14½ at which shares can be obtained. Ewos are somewhat lower at Tls. 44 sellers.

MISCELLANEOUS. — Green Island Cements are quiet with sellers at \$2. A. S. Watsons have sold at \$15½. Electrics can be procured at \$13 for the old and \$6½ for the new issues. Ropes are quiet at \$17½, and Ices at \$195. Tramways can still be placed at \$280. China

Providents have sold at \$9½ and are still wanted. Tobacco Trusts have sold at \$50. Manila Investments are offering at \$47.

MEMO.—Dairy Farm Company, Limited, extraordinary general meeting to-morrow, the 14th inst.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	(\$620. { L'don, £63.
China & Japan, ordy.	£4	£1.
Do. deferred	£1	nominal.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	£8	\$27, sellers
B. Shares	£8	\$27, sellers
Four. Shares	£1	\$15, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	£1	\$1.10, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$21, buyers
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$15	\$38.
China Light & Power Co., Ltd.	\$20	\$20.
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9.5, sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$151.
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra Limited	\$500	\$500, nominal.
Philippine Tobacco	\$50	\$50, sales
Invest. Co., Ltd.		
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 44, sellers
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 30.
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 250.
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 1.
Hongkong	\$100	\$14½, sellers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$11.
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$55, sellers
Green Island Cement	\$70	\$22, sellers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$50.
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$140, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$13, sales
H. H. L. Tramways	\$5	\$6½.
Hk. Steam Water	\$100	\$280, buyers
boat Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$8, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$130, sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$195.
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$96, sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$175.
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$290, sellers
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$155, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$86½, buyers
China Traders	\$25	\$52, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$365, sellers
North China	£25	Tls. 180, buyers
Straits	\$20	nominal.
Union	\$50	\$342½, buyers
Yangtsze	\$60	\$130, sellers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$195, sales & sellers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$14, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$34, sellers
West Point Building	\$50	\$65, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$26, buyers
Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$47, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$350.
Jelebu	\$5	\$4½, sellers
Queen's Mines, Ltd.	25c.	4 cents.
Olivers Mines, A.	\$5	nominal.
Do. B.	\$4½	nominal.
Punjom	\$10	\$5½, sellers
Do. Perference	\$1	\$11, sellers
Raubs	18	\$11, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$25, buyers
Oriente Hotel, Manila	\$50	\$56.
Powell, Ltd.	\$10	\$10, sellers
Robinson Piano Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$50, nominal
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$62½.
China Mutual Pref.	£10	£10.
Do. Ordinary	£7.10	£7. 10s.
Do. Bonus	£5	£5.
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$47.
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$35½, buyers
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$145, sellers
Shel Transport and	£1	£2 17s. 6d., buyers
Trading Co.		
Star Ferry	\$10	(\$21, sellers { \$9, sellers
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	\$1.
United Abestos	\$4	\$9½, buyers
Do	\$10	\$15.
Universal Trading	\$5	\$20½, buyers
Co., Ltd.		
Watkins, Ltd.	\$10	\$10.
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$15½.

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

ARRIVALS.

December—

6, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
 6, Machew, German str., from Bangkok.
 7, Clara, German str., from Haiphong.
 7, Dirigo, American ship, from New York.
 7, Fooksang, British str., from Cninkiang.
 7, Suisang, British str., from Calcutta.
 7, Valetta, British str., from Bombay.
 8, Eastern, British str., from Kobe.
 8, Hailoong, British str., from Tamsui.
 8, Hertha, German cruiser, from Amoy.
 8, Laertes, British str., from Liverpool.
 8, Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.
 8, Skerryvore, British str., from Swatow.
 8, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
 8, Taifu, German str., from Bangkok.
 8, Chiynen, Amr. str., from Canton.
 8, Haiching, British transport, from Taku.
 8, Kagoshima Maru, Jap. str., from Bombay.
 8, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.
 8, Woosung, British str., from Canton.
 8, J. B. Walker, Amr. bark, from Manila.
 9, Britomart, British g.-bt., from Shanghai.
 9, Elsa, German str., from Hongay.
 9, Emma Luyken, Ger. str., from Hongay.
 9, Hans Menzell, Ger. str., from Yangtze.
 9, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
 9, Java, British str., from Singapore.
 9, Loksang, British str., from Chinkiang.
 9, Michael Jensen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 9, Paoting, British str., from Shanghai.
 9, Taiyuan, British str., from Japan.
 9, Progress, German str., from Tourane.
 9, Stuttgart, German str., from Yokohama.
 10, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 10, Hansa, German str., from Java.
 10, Kwanglee, British str., from Shanghai.
 10, Prinzess Irene, German str., from Bremen.
 10, Singan, British str., from Canton.
 10, Suvia, German str., from Shanghai.
 10, Talbot, British cruiser, from Weihaiwei.
 10, Thyra, Norw. str., from San Francisco.
 10, Wingsang, British str., from Shanghai.
 10, Zaire, Portuguese gunboat, from Macao.
 11, Achilles, British str., from Japan.
 11, Ariake Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 11, Bormida, Italian str., from Bombay.
 11, Chwnshan, British str., from Singapore.
 11, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
 11, Hailan, French str., from Haiphong.
 11, Hitachi Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 11, Phranang, German str., from Ang Hin.
 11, Victoria, Swedish str., from Straits.
 11, Yedo Maru, Japanese str., from Chefoo.
 11, Trym, Norwegian str., from Haiphong.
 12, Airlie, British str., from Melbourne.
 12, Borneo, British str., from Yokohama.
 12, Chinkiang, British str., from Canton.
 12, Fausang, British str., from Java.
 12, Hailoong, British str., from Swatow.
 12, Hein. Menzell, Ger. str., from Chinkiang.
 12, Lyeemoon, German str., from Canton.
 12, Mobile Bay, British barque, from Hongay.
 12, Pax, Belgian str., from Iloilo.
 12, Perla, British str., from Iloilo.
 12, Wuhu, British str., from Chinkiang.
 12, W. P. Litchfield, Brit. bq., from Fremantle.
 12, Holstein, German str., from Manila.
 12, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 12, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.
 13, Apenrade, German str., from Haiphong.
 13, Benclutha, British str., from Shanghai.
 13, Bramble, British gunboat, from Canton.
 13, Kweiyang, British str., from Tientsin.
 13, Sishan, British str., from Saigon.
 13, Taisang, British str., from Shanghai.
 13, Thales, British str., from Coast Ports.
 13, Waterwitch, British s.-s., from a cruise.
 14, Anping Maru, Jap. str., from Coast Ports.
 14, Fooksang, British str., from Canton.
 14, Kweiyang, British str., from Canton.
 14, Peleus, British str., from Singapore.

December—

DEPARTURES.

7, Ailsa Craig, British str., for Moji.
 7, Ballarat, British str., for Europe.
 7, Flandria, German str., for Shanghai.
 7, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
 7, Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 7, Nanyang, German str., for Saigon.
 7, Pitsanulok, German str., for Bangkok.
 7, Thea, German str., for Haiphong.
 8, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 8, Hoihao, French str., for Hoihow.

8, Kurdistan, British str., for Moji.
 8, K. Yen, British str., for New York.
 8, Sullberg, German str., for Haiphong.
 8, Yiksang, British str., for Yokohama.
 8, Valetta, British str., for Shanghai.
 8, Olimpo, Austrian str., for Moji.
 9, Fooksang, British str., for Canton.
 9, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
 9, Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.
 9, Skerryvore, British str., for Shanghai.
 9, Tsurugisan Maru, Jap. str., for Shanghai.
 10, Astrak, British cruiser, for a cruise.
 10, Chiyeun, American str., for Shanghai.
 10, Clara, German str., for Haiphong.
 10, Deucalion, British str., for Yokohama.
 10, Deuterios, German str., for Saigon.
 10, Dudhope, British ship, for Tacoma.
 10, Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.
 10, Kuroshima Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.
 10, Lassang, British str., for Canton.
 10, Ohsang, British str., for Hongay.
 10, Phira C. Klao, German str., for Bangkok.
 10, Tingsang, British str., for Foochow.
 11, Amigo, German str., for Swatow.
 11, Bramble, British gunboat, for Canton.
 11, Elcano, American str., for Manila.
 11, Java, British str., for Shanghai.
 11, Kwongsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 11, Loosok, German str., for Bangkok.
 11, Michael Jeben, German str., for Shanghai.
 11, Prinzes Irene, German str., for Shanghai.
 11, Stuttgart, German str., for Europe.
 11, Wingsang, British str., for Canton.
 11, Woosang, British str., for Shanghai.
 12, Achilles, British str., for London.
 12, Dr. H. J. Kiaer, Norw. str., for Haiphong.
 12, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
 12, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
 12, Hopsang, British str., for Moji.
 12, Singan, British str., for Shanghai.
 12, Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.
 13, Ariake Maru, Jap. str., for Kutchinotzu.
 13, Chinking, British str., for Shanghai.
 13, Eastern, British str., for Manila.
 13, Hein. Menzell, German str., for Canton.
 13, Hitachi Maru, Japanese str., for London.
 13, Kweiyang, British str., for Canton.
 13, Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 13, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 13, Neptune, British str., for Moji.
 13, Protector, Norwegian str., for Karatsu.
 13, Suevia, German str., for Hamburg.
 13, Suisang, British str., for Calcutta.
 13, Teintan, German str., for Samarang.
 13, Yedo Maru, Japanese str., for Canton.
 14, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 14, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Riojun Maru*, from Shanghai, Messrs. H. F. Mader, W. M. Rich.
 Per *American Mail*, from San Francisco, &c., Mrs. Fred Le Pan, Mrs. W. R. King, Misses King (2), Mrs. H. Webster, Mrs. D. Skinner, Mrs. F. Ladd and two children, Mrs. R. C. Sandi, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Herdman, Masters Paul Herdman, Chas. Herdman, James Herdman and Ralph Herdman, Misses Ruth Herdman and Mary Herdman, Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell Stevenson, Major and Mrs. J. C. C. Watson, Miss Watson, Staff-Surgeon and Mrs. Canton, Mr. and Mrs. S. Ellam, Misses K. Brown, Nazer and Lytton, Mr. M. F. Land and Miss E. C. Land, Mr. W. Sexton and Miss E. Sexton, Messrs. G. L. Burdette, W. T. Wheatley, R. M. Ezekiell, H. R. Raspe, Wm. Wolff, W. H. M. Sinclair, J. W. Brown, M. M. Langhorne, W. F. Draper, Jr., J. R. Thompson, P. V. Busch, F. A. Houseman, S. C. Trench, H. Zuckerswerdt, L. Loewenbach, O. C. Tekelson, W. J. Karnes, W. F. McLaughlin, Hector W. Sampson and A. McKillop.
 Per *Suisang*, from Singapore, &c., Mr. Bumacke.
 Per *Tallée*, from Bangkok, &c., Mr. Hyde.
 Per *Hailoong*, from Tamsui, &c., Mr. H. Kotrivall.
 Per *Sungkiang*, from Manila, Messrs. T. N. Le Pase, Cook and Ribero.
 Per *Lyeemoon*, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Appleby, Mrs. Moslonoski and Mr. Meyer.
 Per *Eastern*, from Kobe, &c., Messrs. R. Ramsay and J. P. Rae, Misses Helms, Smedley, Robinson and M. Gray.
 Per *Valetta*, for Hongkong, from London, Hon. and Mrs. Goodman, (2) Misses Goodman

and two children, Lieut. A. M. L. Disney, Sub-Lieuts. Bradford, Scott and Le Motlee, Messrs. E. M. Rogers, J. S. Hutchinson and A. M. Stewart; from Marseilles, Misses Tabberer, Codrington, T. Johnson, L. M. Jones, M. Aston and Church; for Shanghai, from London, Mr. J. Batty; from Marseilles, Messrs. C. O'Dowd and E. Ulrich; from Colombo, Messrs. J. E. Douglas and Kamensky; for Kobe, from London, Mr. Cordner; for Yokohama, from London, Dr. J. D. Ballance.

Per *Taiyuan*, from Japan, Mr. Ramsay and Dr. Pestor.

Per s.s. *Haiching*, from Taku, etc., Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Scott and child, Colonel Retallick, 9 Officers and 727 men of Hongkong Regiment.

Per *Java*, for Hongkong, from London, Miss Duncan, Mrs. Clutton and Miss Clutton; for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Holliday, Mrs. Martin, Miss Martin, Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Kerfoot, and Mr. and Mrs. ...

Per *Stuttgart*, for Hongkong, from Shanghai, Hon. J. J. Bell Irving, Messrs. H. W. Bourke, Wurmbach, Lothar Marcks, Soares and family and Miss M. Soares; from Kobe, Mrs. A. L. Macfie, Comdr. Sherbrooke, R.N., Mrs. H. G. Sherbrooke, Miss G. Sherbrooke, Mr. and Mrs. Bishop; from Yokohama, Baron von Bosch and Mr. H. H. Horsey.

Per *Haitan*, from Coast Ports, Rev. and Mrs. Scudder and three children, Consul Streich, Miss R. Mascey, Master Stirling, Messrs. F. H. Bowers, Steele and Bailey.

Per *Kwanglee*, from Shanghai, Capt. Knight and Mr. Vince.

Per *Wingsang*, from Shanghai, &c., Messrs. Drake, Howard and White.

Per *Prinzes Irene*, for Hongkong, from Bremen, &c., Mrs. Badeley, Mrs. B. Irvin, Mrs. Erskine, Mrs. F. Cass, Mrs. Barrington, Mrs. J. H. Dillon, Mrs. J. Horowitz, Mr. and Mrs. Goetz, Mr. and Mrs. Cray, Mr. and Mrs. Webster, Mr. and Mrs. Brownlow, Mr. and Mrs. M. Aberbach, Misses Bernhard, Macfarland, Harrison, K. Thomas, A. and M. Cooper, Watney and Macgowan, Messrs. H. Schottlander, C. W. May, E. Solly, W. L. Bromwell, C. Th. Brandt, Powel Grant, Smith, M. Crickus, F. Rathjen, J. Eickhoff, A. Mac ... J. Nicol and J. Varcaddo. In Transit, from Bremen, Mrs. A. Fichter, Mr. and Mrs. Behse, Consul Hagen and family, Miss M. Pitzipios, Messrs. Beyer, Schafer, A. E. Kindhlad, S. Hauck, Hall, Shaw, N. Christensen, Arnoldi, Brudi, Bushel, Busch, Cledner, Eberins, Gantier, Gross, Jacobsen, Jordan, Kintzel, Laubert, v. d. Luhe, Mallikroth, Neumann, Paschen, Rausch, Reinhard, Rothengotter, Schafer, Schroder, Schutze, Wienholt, Willecke, Zitzewitz, Drawin, Armonat, Hoffmann, Ewert, Hausen, Sudhaus, Paschen, S. Hagemeyer and Richardt; from Southampton, Mrs. Paramore, Mrs. M. Jackson, Misses Bere, Ashwell, G. Nott, Messrs. Deans, J. Matheson, Laing, Parker, Calvert, H. Looker, Craken L. Kundsén, Gelar, J. Cameron, J. Quick, Sobey, A. Scott, de Havilland, A. Evans, M. Mann, M. Beming and M. Dellavesa; from Genoa, Mrs. Dyer, Mrs. Raspe, Mrs. B. ... Mr. and Mrs. Peterson, Mr. and Mrs. D. ... Dr. Wilm, Misses M. Goldschmidt, M. Monari, Fungall, Digby and W. Jackson, Messrs. M. Haymann, C. Wiegenthart, M. Kon, Kind, D. Kushing, M. Reith, J. Jeben, Family Korff, E. Gerlach, L. Haase, J. Conder, M. Fassio, F. Palazzi, F. Guaita, A. Jurgens, G. Gatti, F. Mauty, Andrews, E. Wohfall, J. Riegelsberger, E. Kanhauser, W. Rubenstein and P. P. Kutt; from Naples, Mr. and Mrs. M. Dentici; from Colombo, Messrs. E. Rottenstraich, Gnampocan and E. A. Kohen; from Penang, Mrs. Keehang; from Singapore, Mr. Smith, Mrs. Erokawa, Mrs. Kazch, Messrs. Oshea and Yamamoto.

Per *Borneo*, for Hongkong, from Kobe, Dr. and Mrs. and Miss Clements Smith and Mr. ... from Shanghai, Mrs. J. Henderson, Messrs. ... Ross and T. M. Phillips; from ... J. Helling; for London, from ... Troop Sergt. Spottiswoode.

Per *Perla*, from Manila, Messrs. E. Aldegaer, Ramon and Coula.

Per *Airlie*, from Australia, Mrs. Mandeville, Mrs. S. Pacheco, Rev. G. H. McNeur, Messrs. A. E. Jolly, W. Easton, H. W. Oaten, E. J. Jordan, E. B. Rerstaen, W. H. Bramwell and S. H. Rowe.

Per *Thales*, from Coast Ports, Rev. Goodman Johnson and C. H. Best.

Per *Kweiyang*, from Tientsin, &c., Lieut. Headlam, R.I.M., Messrs. H. P. Ford, and ... Manners.

Per *Zafiro*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Conrad, Messrs. Johns, Scudder, Fernando, Harper, Foster, K. Matsuhata, A. H. Whitney, E. Young, K. ... K. M. ... P. Jennet and A. ...

Per *Bencutha*, from Shanghai, ... and Mrs. ...

Per *Taisang*, from Shanghai, ... and Mrs. Hood.

DEPARTED.

Per *Ballaarat*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Rev. F. T. Johnson, Messrs. J. G. Barclay, L. Buxton and A. W. Newton; for Bombay, Mrs. Aspinwall and Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Greaves; for Brindisi or Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Cosby; for London, Mr. and Mrs. John L. Batchelder, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Peck, Major Dyson, A.P.D., Messrs. G. Skipworth and W. C. Taylor; from Shanghai, for Brindisi, Mrs. G. B. Wilson and A. G. Woolley; for London, Lieut. and Comdr. H. E. Hillman, R.N., and Dr. Wiseman.

Per *Valetta*, for Shanghai, from Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. ... Ray, G. Castrilho and N. Merino, Messrs. C. F. Maligny, H. T. Henningsen, R. K. ... Forte and L. Ruchwaldy; from London, Mr. J. Batty; from Marseilles, Messrs. O'Dowd and E. Ulrich; from Colombo, Messrs. J. E. Douglas and Kamensky; for Kobe, from London, Mr. Cordner.

Per *Loongsang*, for Manila, Miss Asa Irie, Messrs. H. M. Sinclair, W. W. Johnston, W. P. Shattuck, R. E. Herdman, W. T. Wheatley, W. B. King, A. McC. Stewart, Wm. Gwynne and G. L. Brusdett.

Per *Stuttgart*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Dr. Reel and Mr. C. Cobai; for Penang, Mr. A. MacKillop, Mr. and Mrs. K. Hantoru; for Colombo, Mr. H. W. Leeming; for Southampton, Capt. Morris; for London, Messrs. F. Northen, S. Watters and W. C. Taylor; for Hamburg, Mr. W. Jeben.

Per *Prinzes Irene*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Lady Brownrigg, Mrs. C. Carrill Worsley, Mrs. C. R. Sandi, Misses Iva Smedley, C. S. Remedios and Manly, Messrs. A. J. de Souza, F. Land, P. Wichura, F. H. Bell, H. S. Smith, C. A. Chew, D. Peacock, C. W. Dixon, G. F. Veitch, A. Dewell, C. M. May, F. X. S. Remedios, S. ... A. ... G. Vercaides; for Nagasaki, Mrs. F. Howitz and child, Mr. and Mrs. M. Aberbach, Messrs. C. D. Devyser, F. Upton and J. A. P. Collaco; for Hio, Mr. ... for Yokohama, Mr. ...

Per *Eastern*, for Australia, Mrs. Gwynne and three children, Mrs. King, Misses King and G. King, Mrs. B. Cameron, Misses H. and M. Cameron, Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Terrill, Mr. and Mrs. Stevenson, Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher Ladd and two children, Mr. and Mrs. L. Webster and child, Rev. and Mrs. E. J. Barnett, Rev. D. Hibberd, Capt. Maher, Misses Pickford and Gray, Mr. W. and Miss Sexton, Messrs. A. R. Thistlethwaite, H. Koehler, A. F. Stoeger, Wm. Wolff, George Lack, C. Eweus, F. Gordon, Reg. Hockings, R. Ramsay, J. P. Rae, H. E. Pollock, K.C., and N. K. Davison.

Per *Hitachi Maru*, for London, &c., Mrs. Webb, Rev. and Mrs. Campbell, Rev. and Mrs. L. R. Scudder and three children, Miss Wood, Miss McLead, Capt. J. B. Mollison, Messrs. C. Vittor, Morr's, H. E. Baker, Thomas Downward, R. Okakura, T. Yonei, T. Saito, H. Hida, S. Matsumoto, Z. Amari, S. Akatsuka, K. Takemura, I. Imai, S. Katow, S. Otomine, S. Hori, S. Shinjio, K. Nakayama, H. Takeishi, R. Hara, and S. Yamaguchi.

Per *Borneo*, from Hongkong, for Colombo, Dr. and Mrs. and Miss Clementi Smith; for Calcutta, Mr. R. S. Low; for Port Said, Messrs. Chapman and Rashbrook; for London, Messrs. A. G. V. Salter, S. Hayes, J. Butler, E. A. Houseman and S. C. Trench; from Shanghai, for London, Sergt. Spottiswoode.